Homestead High School 4310 Homestead Rd Fort Wayne, IN 46814

SPARTANA

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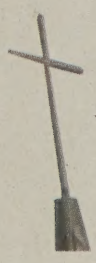
News

Dave Frebel (12)

Kait Stevens (12)

Homecoming kicks off the new school year. Find information on all the festivities that took place during Homecoming week.
Page 3A



The 10 year anniversary of the Saint Mary's Church fire is taking place this month.
Page 4B

Sports

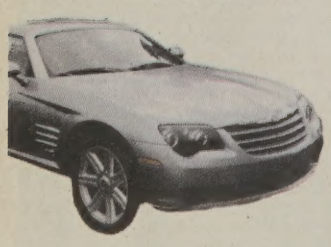
Girls golf finished 2nd in NHC with help from Connie Shim's 81. So far the girls have beaten most of their competition.
Full story on page 2B.

Connie Shim (12)

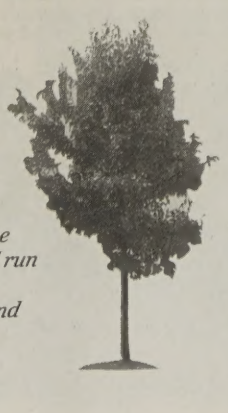
Ryan Rahrig (11)

The football team improved their record to 2-2 as they pick up momentum heading into the second half of the season.
Page 1B.

Entertainment



The Kruse Auction was a big draw this year, featuring new cars as well as the usual classics. Take a look at 1c for more pictures and details about the two day event.
Page 1A



A tradition continues this weekend with the annual Johnny Appleseed Festival. The festival will run Friday, Saturday and Sunday.
Page 4C.

Senator David Long answers questions after his speech on Wednesday to juniors and seniors. He discussed education and the legislative process. He and Superintendent Dr. Brian Smith discussed the plans for the Referendum as well. The Referendum will give tax money back to Southwest Allen Schools. The plan is to take money from funds that already exist and put it into the general fund that will contribute to smaller class sizes, expanded curricular material, and a more broad class selection. SACS would like to include an additional high school counselor if the funding is restored. The next public meeting to discuss the Referendum is on September 24 at Aboite Elementary at 7:00 p.m. Meeting will be held throughout the rest of September and October. Voting on the Referendum proposal is on November 4, and is open all.

Freshmen required to take ISTEP exams

christy landrigan
intern writer

The ISTEP+ test was administered on September 16, 17, and 18 to all freshman and sophomores, as well as those who either missed testing or did not pass the first time. Upper classmen participated in special activities while testing occurred.

"It's an assessment to see where students are," Assistant Principal Steve Lake said of the test. "It gives the state an idea of how students are doing, and it will help freshman be more relaxed when they take it as sophomores because they will already be familiar with the test."

The State of Indiana requires that all students pass the Math and English portions of ISTEP+ before receiving their diploma. A student may take the ISTEP+ their junior and senior year. If a student does not pass before graduation, a Certificate of Course Completion will be given.

"It's important to have a base line to see where you're at compared to everyone else," Lake said.

This year freshman took a version of the test that was previously only administered to sophomores. The theory behind the change is that students will be more prepared to pass the test as sophomores if exposed to the testing procedures and format.

"Students and teachers need to take this test seriously," Lake said.

There are no make up test dates, as testing only occurs once per year. Students were advised to get a good amount of sleep and to eat breakfast before testing in order to ensure their best performance. If a student arrived late to school and testing had already begun, their test is disqualified, and they will have to take that portion again next year.

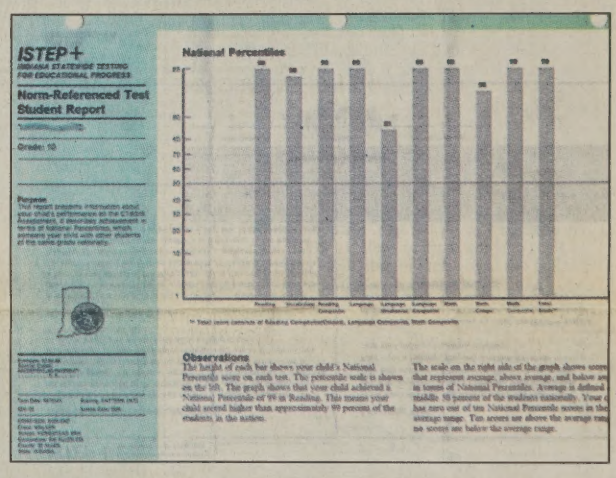
"We're trying to make ISTEP+ testing more of a positive disruption for those not taking it," Lake said. "Last year some kids sat in study hall for periods at a time, depending on which teachers administered testing."

Guidance counselor Sally Tinkel was in charge of planning events for juniors and seniors who had already passed the test.

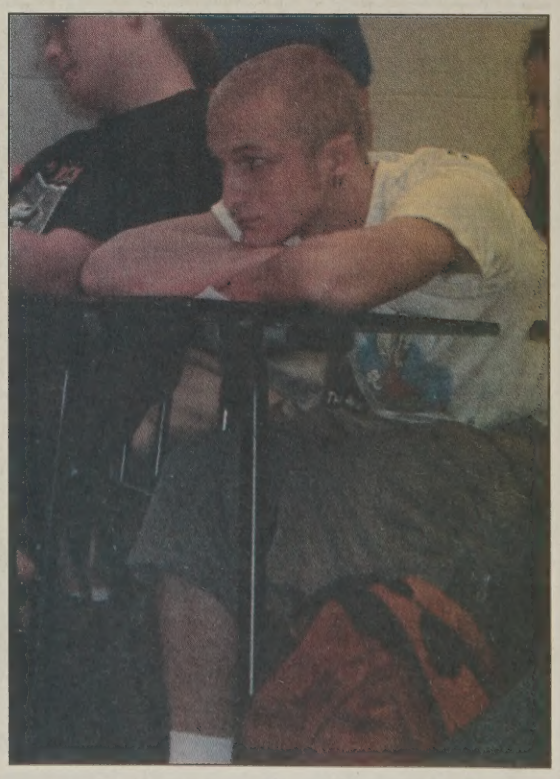
"We wanted some activities that would be meaningful and fun," Tinkel said.

On Tuesday the 16th students had the opportunity to job shadow or take a college visit for four hours, based on parent approval. On Wednesday the 17th Dr. Brian Smith, Superintendent of Southwest Allen County Schools, addressed the students on Education and the Legislative Process along with Senator David Long. Also, on Wednesday Bob Trgovich spoke in a presentation titled Coming of Age in the Real World. Thursday brought speaker Larry Gonzales, Admissions Officer from Indiana University who targeted the junior class with a presentation entitled Preparing for College While There is Still Time. Seniors ordered caps and gowns for graduation and were instructed in resume writing.

While freshmen and sophomores were taking ISTEP+ exams, upperclassmen were kept busy with learning opportunities that would not otherwise be available at Homestead.



This year new policies are requiring freshmen, as well as the sophomores, to take the Indiana Statewide Testing for Educational Progress (ISTEP). Above is a sample of a test result from a previous ISTEP exam. Scores, which contain students' percentiles compared to the rest of student test takers in the nation, typically become available in January.



Above Left: Counselor Tom Quigley addresses his students in a class meeting early this year. Above: Joel Blair (11) listens intently as the school policies for the year are explained. Left: Shauna Pukitis (11), Jared Shaw (11), and Tim Reid (11) listen attentively to Counselor Amy Hamilton. Among the new policies at the meetings was the relaxation of rules concerning cell phones and drinks in the morning. Cell phones may now be carried with students as long as they are turned off, and open containers are allowed in the morning before classes start. Old dress, attendance, and discipline policies remain virtually unchanged, following the guidelines in the student handbook.

the Spartana
PITHY
(pĭth'ē) adj. concisely meaningful

Spartan Briefs

Stop Violence

Lt. Colonel Dave Grossman invites parents and members from to community to attend an evening listening in on ways to stop school violence. The event will be held at Concordia Lutheran High School Auditorium on October 22nd, from 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Admission and parking is free, and child care is provided as well for ages 2 through 12.

Old School House

A volunteer opportunity has opened up at the Old School House on Aboite road, which will need cleaning on September 27th.

Johnny Appleseed Festival

The annual festival will be held on Saturday September 20, and Sunday September 21. Festival hours are Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., and Sunday 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Attractions at the festival includes Settler's Pioneer and Village Store, Farmer's Market, Trader's Market, Craft and Market Booths, and several others.

SADD

This summer SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions) elected new officers. Rachel Johnson is the President, Courtney Wallace is the Vice President and Indiana State Board Member, Whitney Johnson is the Secretary and Ryan Keopke is the treasurer. Members of SADD attended the Indiana Teen Institute at Vincennes University for a week to learn about leadership skills. Students meet in room 526 after school on Wednesdays.

Cheerleaders

The cheerleaders begin their season with a new Junior Varsity coach. Ashley Watts, a former Homestead cheerleader will fill the spot. Sheenah Johnson is new to the coaching staff as well. In 2001 Johnson was ranked 4th in the state in individual cheerleading and was an Indiana Cheerleading Association Scholarship Recipient. Brittany Sistrunk is again coaching the freshmen and Teresa Sistruck is the varsity coach. All three of the teams will compete at the World Cheer Competition in Indianapolis on October 11, and at the Indiana Regional Cheer Competition at Bishop Dwenger on October 18.

ACT

On Saturday September 27, the ACT examination will be held in the Cafeteria from 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m.

SAT Help Sessions

Math help sessions will be held on Thursdays from 6:30-8:30 p.m. beginning September 25. The instructor is Tina Miller and will be held in room 512. Verbal help sessions will be held on Wednesdays from 6:30-8:30 p.m. beginning on September 24. The instructor is Vernell Fettig and will be held in room 729. The cost for each session is $85.00 and for both session it is $160.00.

Academic Letters

Students with a combined grade point average of an 8.0 ("B") will receive and Academic Letter for the 2002-03 school year. Academic Letters are given out only for the first year of achievement. For subsequent years, metal chevrons are given out that can be attached to the letter. Students who are to receive an Academic Letter will get a letter in the mail from the Principle's Office. Included with the award notification will be an order form to purchase numerals for his/her anticipated graduation date.

West Nile

The Environmental Center has been assessed by the Allen County Department of Health and was deemed that "students and faculty that utilize the nature preserve are not at increased risk for mosquito-borne diseases." Those who go to the Environmental Center should dress in long pants, long sleeves, socks and shoes and wear insect repellent with DEET. As an extra precaution the district has hired a pesticide company to spray the SACS campus where activities occur. This spraying is scheduled to occur each Wednesday after dusk.

Referendum Meetings

Public meeting to discuss the Referendum begin at 7:00 p.m. The first meeting is at Homestead High School on September 18. Meetings are held throughout the rest of September and October and the rest are held at each of the elementary schools.

Calendar

9.20 Marching Band Contest 9.22 Parent Club Meeting at 7:00 p.m. 9.23 Class Royale competes at Bluffton 9.26 Registration deadline for the November 1 SAT 9.29 All Choirs Concert in the Auditorium at 7:00 p.m. 10.11 Homestead hosts the Fall Festival of Bands 10.21 PSAT/ PLAN testing 10.21 End of the First Nine Weeks

Ready to win in perfect form

The Marching Band is geared for another season of competitions

suhasini bhargava
associate entertainment editor

Striving to perform at the highest level possible at every competition, practicing in the rain, snow and sun, members of the Spartan Alliance Marching Band continue to put forth immense effort during daily practices and weekend competitions.

In an attempt to master the music and marching drills, the band began mandatory practices at band camp from August 1 until August 15. During camp, band members worked with drum majors Mary Eckert (12), Laura Menze (12), Katie Blocher (12) and Jocelyn Gauthier (11) from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. The band continues to practice on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays after school until 5 p.m. and on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. Additionally, the band practices on Saturday mornings and attends a contest during the evenings. The band is directed by Steve Barber and Brad Wadkins.

"The weather was really nice through most of band camp, which made practices far more bearable than if the weather had been hot," band member Shelley Gupta (11) said. "Everyone worked really hard and we got the drill and music out by the second to last day, just like what was wanted of us."

On Saturday, September 6, the Spartan Alliance Marching Band competed in the Bluffton Invitational at Bluffton High School. The band won awards for best visual effect, best music, best general effect, and best auxiliary. The band was named Grand Champion in the class A division.

At the Preview of Champions Invitational held on September 13 at Ben Davis High School, the band captured the grand championship for the second consecutive week this season. In addition, the band won awards for best music, best visual, best general effect, best percussion, best auxiliary, and best drum major.

The theme for the 2003 band season is gravity. To visually illustrate gravity, the band is using tarps and trampolines. Members of the color guard practice anti-gravity flag routines.

"I am very excited about this year's show," Gauthier said. "The season is going very well. Discipline is excellent and everybody has a positive attitude. It is shaping up to be a good year."

The show also features a an alto saxophone soloist, Trent Gard (11).

Being a member of the band encompasses having dedication and perseverance.

"The weather [can be bad] and the field gets muddy," Gauthier added. "We are out in the rain and the snow but it makes us better. It takes a lot of dedication but that's what makes the program what it is."

The 275 member band is accompanied by a color guard. The guard members add flavor, grace and visual effects to the show.

"The guard adds a lot to the band," Gauthier said. "The band would not be band without the guard."

The band members' strength lies in their cooperative and hardworking nature.

"The band works well together and they work hard," Gauthier said. "They are handling the tough show very well."

On September 27th, the band will be competing at Avon High School in the afternoon and Greenwood High School in the evening. The following week, the band will be attending the Indiana State School Music Association (ISSMA) district competition at Northrop High School. On October 11, the Spartan Alliance will be hosting the Fall Festival of Bands. On October 18th, the band will be visiting Chesterton High School for the ISSMA regional contest. If the band qualifies for the state tournament, the Spartan Alliance will perform at the RCA Dome for the 16th consecutive year.

"I think everybody wants to be the best they know how," Gauthier said. "Everyone's hoping for a great season and everyone wants to be the best. It is not about winning state but about putting out your best performance. They [Barber and Wadkins] don't talk about winning; they talk about doing the best."

A typical marching band practice, where the entire band warms-up and runs through all of their formations. Below right: On homecoming night, the band was in perfect form, displaying their talents during the halftime show.

Laura Menze (12) directs the band as one of the four drum majors. The other three drum majors are Mary Eckert (12), Jocelyn Gauthier (11), and Katie Blocher (12). The band competes at Concord High School this weekend. The band won their two previous competitions.

Key club expands membership

matt anderson
writer

With its laid back policies on attendance, admittance to all students, and acceptance of new members throughout the year, Key Club makes it easy for students looking for a new way to get involved in the school and the community.

Key Club is a student based volunteer group that works together at meetings and on projects to help better the community. Meeting once a week in the community room, it's members discuss which projects will be taken on and who will be responsible for each different task.

"Every week new information is presented at the meetings," Jon Lubkert (12) said. "All of the different projects become available, and then members pick and choose which service projects, if any, they want to partake in."

As of now, Key Club has around 140 members, but this number continues to increase throughout the year. Students are allowed to go to as many meetings during the year as they choose to, and they can work however many volunteer projects as they can fit into their schedule."

The Key Club board strives to make it possible for all students looking to help in the community and do volunteer work find different jobs in the area. Students are rewarded for their efforts in a plethora of ways. Usually, the most important aspect to students is the kickbacks with colleges.

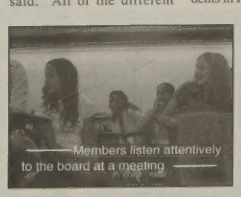
"A huge benefit for students in Key Club is being able to put it on their college applications," Key Club sponsor Jennifer Bay said. "Colleges like to see volunteer work on an application and are looking more and more for something like Key Club on a students resume."

Along with doing smaller jobs found around the are, the club has its main annual activities that have become a huge part of the schedule that student's often look forward to.

"Every year, the Key Club participates in Relay For Life, a 24-hour work and camp-out to fight against cancer, and the Youth Day of Caring, which involves inner-city cleaning," Lubkert said. "These are still not mandatory, but we always have a great time."

The meetings take place after school until 2:50 p.m. on Thursdays in the community room. These meetings are open for anyone to attend, and there is food and drinks for all.

"Even though it is my first year in key club I already feel really comfortable," Kim Hossler (12) said. "The meetings are really laid back, and the people in it are great. I can juggle everything I have going on in my life, and still find time to be in key club."



Members listen attentively to the board at a meeting

photos / colin knapp

Board members, including Javed Sayed (10), David Gehring (11), Jon Lubkert (12), John Greco (12), and Nate Mensah (10) say the Key Club pledge.

Role Reversal

Back to School night showcases student life

javed sayed
writer

Although some students keep their parents in the dark about their school life, parents were able to learn about their children's classes at Back-to-School Night.

Back to-School Night, was a window into students' days at school.

Once parents arrived they were given a copy of their child's schedule. They then went to their children's classes. Once in the classroom the teachers told the parents what their classes are all about.

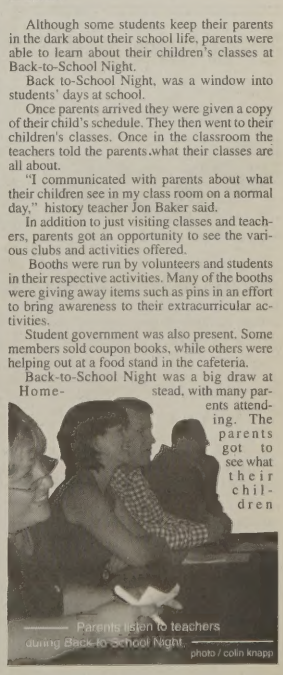
"I communicated with parents about what their children see in my class room on a normal day," history teacher Jon Baker said.

In addition to just visiting classes and teachers, parents got an opportunity to see the various clubs and activities offered.

Booths were run by volunteers and students in their respective activities. Many of the booths were giving away items such as pins in an effort to bring awareness to their extracurricular activities.

Student government was also present. Some members sold coupon books, while others were helping out at a food stand in the cafeteria.

Back-to-School Night was a big draw at Homestead, with many parents attending. The parents got to see what their children



Parents listen to teachers during Back-to School Night.

photo / colin knapp

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APPRISED
(ə-prīz ′d)v. to give notice to; inform

Homecoming spirit lives on

Students enjoy the many events of Homecoming Week

manasee atre
copy editor

With October just around the corner, school is now in full gear. With school and all of its classes and homework have come the fall activities, such as Homecoming Week. Homecoming Week began on Monday, September 8 and continued through Friday, September 12.

To celebrate Homecoming Week, student government sponsored many different activities, such as "Spirit Days."

"Spirit Days are days to dress up, have fun, and show your school spirit," Student Government member Anna Menze (10) said.

Each Spirit Day had a different theme. Monday was Pajama Day, Tuesday was Crazy Hair Day, Wednesday was College Day, Thursday was Seventies and Eighties Day, and Friday was Blue and Gold Day. Each day, students and staff members who participated in Spirit Day and dressed up could enter the Spirit Raffle. Winners of the raffle received prizes such as gift certificates to Jefferson Pointe or Best Buy.

In addition to Spirit Days, there were also carnation sales during Spirit Week. Student government started pre-selling the carnations, which were blue and yellow, on the Thursday before Homecoming Week and continued to sell them until the next Thursday. The carnations were one for one dollar or three for two dollars. Then, on the Friday of Homecoming Week, the flowers were delivered to students' second period classes.

"We're really happy with the carnation sales," Menze said. "We sold about seven hundred of them, and the money will go into our general fund for many of our activities, such as prom."

Another Homecoming Week event was the Fall Picnic, also sponsored by Student Government. At the picnic, which was held outside on the football field, students could buy a picnic lunch of a hot dog or peanut butter and jelly sandwich, chips or pretzels, a cookie, baked beans, and an orange drink.

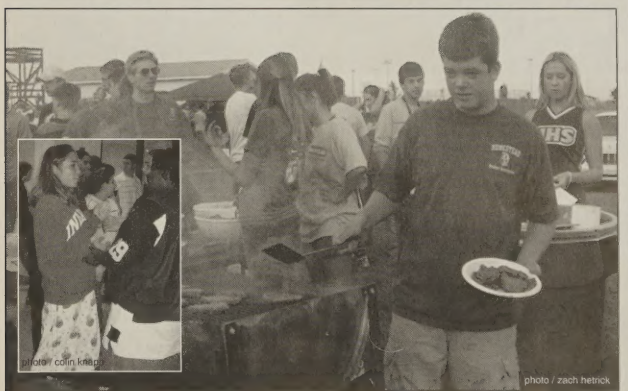
The culmination of Homecoming Week was Friday with the Homecoming football game, the announcement of Homecoming King and Queen, and the Homecoming Dance after the football game. The Homecoming football game was played against Columbia City, and the Spartans won the game 21-0. During half-time of the game, Homecoming King and Queen were announced. The Homecoming King was Shawn Fox, and the Homecoming Queen was Molly Laipple.

Shawn Fox and Molly Laipple were crowned Homecoming King and Queen during half-time of the football game where Homestead defeated Coulumbia City.

> "When I heard my name announced, I was shocked."
> Molly Laipple (12)

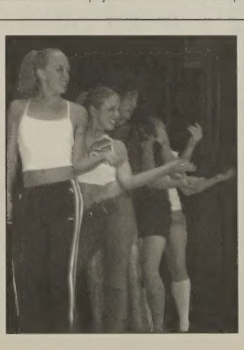
"When I heard my name announced, I was shocked," Laipple (12) said. "I just stood there for a few seconds, not believing that my name had been called. Once it finally hit me, though, I was really excited too."

Voting for the Homecoming Court began on August 21, and the Homecoming Court was announced on August 29. Voting for the Homecoming King and Queen occurred the following Friday. The Homecoming Court consisted of 13 girls and boys. The girls were Molly Laipple, Megan Ford, Laura Phillipp, Ashley Buck, Brooke Parrish, Megan Hoffmann, Kristen Gumbert, Kristen Caldwell, Emily Hartman, Meagan Kaminski, Kait Stevens, Courtney Byers, and Angie Heyer. The boys were Ben Baenen, Josh Schwartz, Matt Sulkin, Kyle Bleworth, Taylor Hougland, Kevin Bush, Jake Labas, Ryan Koepke, David Frebel, Cody Kiess, Shawn Fox, and Jesse Burroughs, Nick Rolfe.



On Thursday, September 11, students ate lunch outside for the student government sponsored fall picnic. Inset: Student dresses in pajamas to show school spirit during Homecoming week.

Joe Colley (12) and Jason Walley (12), members of the painted boys, support the football game. Inset: The girls on the soccer team participated in crazy-hair day with pig tails.



Madison Hamil (12) and "Spice Girls II" strut their stuff while competing at the annual Lip Sync Contest. These girls and guys grabbed second place in the contest with their rendition of "If You Want to be My Lover" from the originalSpice Girls.

First time ever voting allows viewers to choose favorite

sarah kennedy
writer

Lip Sync - a night of Homestead's traditionally irregular song and dance - took place on Wednesday, September 10th in the Homestead auditorium. Lip Sync is one of the ways that students here at Homestead celebrate Homecoming week. The show opened with Tim Tolentino (12) and a group jamming and singing to their own Lip Sync performance, which set the show's tone in high gear for the entire night. The auditorium responded with an eruption of cheers and applause as the show took off, and their enthusiasm continued throughout the night. Tolentino hosted the contest and amused the audience by cracking jokes as he announced each performance.

The show included acts with singing, dancing, and kareoke, along with several performances by groups that were not involved in the contest. The entire auditorium was involved in the acts. Students stood up as the groups performed the highlights of their shows, and they gave the singing groups high energy responses.

"I had lots of fun at Lip Sync. Some of the acts were pretty funny and I really liked David Lash's 'Grease Lightning' a lot," said Anthony Burgett (10).

As the night came to a close, the judges made their picks and chose the best of the acts to take first, second and third place for the night. Third place was claimed by the group that called themselves "Old School Girls," second place went to "Spice Girls 2," and the first place winners for the night were the "Respect Girls."

The "Respect Girls" consisted of Janelle Brown (12), Bevin Fath (12), Caitlin Johnston (11), and Connie Shim (12). The group won one hundred dollars for first place.

Students were able to choose the act that they felt was best by putting fifty cents into a container of the act that they chose. The winner of the "People's Choice Award" was David Lash, singing "Grease Lightning." Lash was recognized at the pep rally during school on the Friday of Homecoming. The first place group, "The Respect Girls," and the second place group, "Spice Girls 2," performed their acts for the entire school during the pep rally.

"I thought the whole show was really funny. The judges seemed pretty fair, and I liked how students got to vote for People's Choice also," said Allie Dupont (10).

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INTEGRATE
(ĭn'tĭ-grāt') v. To join with something else; unite

September marks ten year anniversary of church fire

Saint Mary's Church was rebuilt after lightning strike caused devastating fire ten years

tim clark
writer

On a fateful day in September of 1993, Fort Wayne's skyline visibly changed in the wake of a devastating fire that ripped through a downtown landmark. St. Mary's Catholic Church was the fire's victim. The Gothic Style church, on the corner of Jefferson Blvd. and Lafayette St., had stood for over 100 years. The church that burnt down though, was not the original St. Mary's.

The first St. Mary's Catholic Church was built on the corner of Jefferson Blvd. and Lafayette St. in 1848. It was made completely out of wood and was torn down in favor of a bigger church in 1858. That church was then destroyed in 1886 when a boiler exploded. The third installment was built in 1887 and was destroyed over 100 years later in 1993 from a lightning strike. The fourth chapter of the church was built five years later in 1998.

On September 2, 1993, a batch of strong thunderstorms was making its way through the Summit City. A t some time just before 3:00 PM, a lightning bolt struck one of the steeples of the church. Although the church was equipped with lightning rods, a fault in the cable that went from the rod to the ground caused the electricity to enter into a wall behind the choir loft. Most of the interior of the church was made of wood and that wood, mixing with a century of dust and other dry materials caused the fire to develop and spread quickly throughout the church.

Once fire crews arrived on the scene, they found a small amount of smoke coming out of the vents in the main steeple. The firefighters had an ironic problem though. The stained-glass windows were protected by a durable layer of plastic, which were supposed to prevent the windows from breaking. But the thought of them needing to be broken in order to fight a fire was not taken into consideration. With that, and the church's outside being made all of brick, the fire was able to eat away at the inside of the church. This left firefighters nearly helpless in fighting the fire.

A sense of sorrow soon filled Fort Wayne as news of the fire spread throughout the city.

Homestead High School teacher Mrs. Speidel said, "I was on my way home from Harding High School, listening to the radio, when they (radio DJ's) started shouting. They were loud and excitedly talking about a fire at St. Mary's Catholic Church in downtown."

The fire quickly spread throughout the sanctuary and other parts of the church. The fire fully engulfed the sanctuary roof and it later collapsed into the church. Before long the Main steeple itself, was fully engulfed in flames. Once the fire burned through the support work of the steeple, it crashed through the interior of the church.

Speidel said, "I was almost home when the steeple went down and the announcer sounded like he was crying."

The fire was later contained that night, and eventually was put out leaving the skeleton of a badly burned Fort Wayne landmark.

The parish soon realized it had many problems on its hands like where they would hold masses, or where they could run their soup kitchen. The City soon rose to the aide and helped out the parish in any way that they could. For Instance, St. Paul's Catholic Church opened their doors to the parish of St. Mary's for several years before the new St. Mary's was constructed.

Sue Stock, a catholic parishioner for 67 years said, "All the parishes in town helped financially and in any other way they could."

St. Mary's soup kitchen, which had been serving soup since 1975 to the homeless and needy of the community, also needed a home to continue serving soup. And they never skipped a beat, serving soup the very next day at a temporary location.

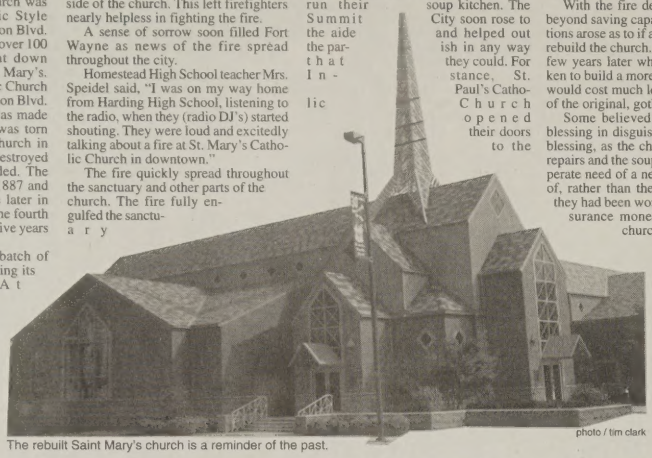
"They continued and they never stopped, they never stopped having a free meal," Stock said.

With the fire destroying the church beyond saving capabilities, many questions arose as to if and when they would rebuild the church. That answer came a few years later when ground was broken to build a more modern church that would cost much less than a rebuilding of the original, gothic style, church.

Some believed that the fire was a blessing in disguise, all-be-it a morbid blessing, as the church was in need of repairs and the soup kitchen was in desperate need of a new place to work out of, rather than the cramped basement they had been working in. With the insurance money from the fire the church was able to build a new and very modern church, designed to specifically serve the parish and soup kitchen, for only half of what the insurance policy gave back. The other three million from the policy started The St. Mary's Heritage Fund, in which over one million dollars has been donated to area parishes.

Ten years gone, The parish is still known for its community support of homeless and needy more than anything. Father Tom O'Connor is the one instituted most of the community outreaches of the St. Mary's parish.

"What they do mostly is good works for poor people and people on welfare," Stock said.



The rebuilt Saint Mary's church is a reminder of the past.

photo / tim clark

Saint Mary's Catholic Church was one of the olderst churchs in fort wayne before it burned down due to a lightning storm in 1993.

The old wall were preserved but the cost of rebuilding using the existing walls was to high. The congregation therefore decided to to build a new church on the existing land.

"I was saddened when I found out that Saint Mary's church had burned down. I always used to see it when traveling downtown, and every time I went through, it was a reminder to me of what had happened."

-Jon Isenberg-

This was a tragic incident, to have this historical building destroyed. I am also glad to see that they have rebuilt the church.

-Derek Thieme-

Community members unite for 5k walk to fight AIDS epidemic

zafar sayed
news editor

A fatal killer with no cure; one that can infect its victims without even causing noticeable symptoms. In what turned out to be an almost picture perfect afternoon, partakers in the annual AIDS Walk helped raise awareness about a deadly virus that affects almost 1 in 300 Americans - HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus).

"Fight AIDS is important because a lot of people think that AIDS can never really effect them, but the walk was a good way to see that AIDS effects us all," walker Emily Kensinger (11) said.

On September 7th, Lawton Park in Allen county hosted various festivities, as well as a 5 kilometer walk to raise money to combat acquired immunodeficiency syndrome or AIDS. Mayor Graham Richard was on hand to speak about the disease, as well as open the walk to the community. During this time, past AIDS victims in the community were remembered during a short ceremony.

Participants in the walk were asked to set a collection goal of $200 or more per person, the money collected was then going to be used to further research through the AIDS Task Force. Furthermore, 90% of the raised funds would be used locally in northeastern Indiana to combat AIDS. The result was over $54,000 dollars in donations being generated by the largest local AIDS fundraiser.

"The AIDS Walk was a great easy to give back to the community", walker Drew Hadley (11) said.

Besides raising money, the event's other purpose was also to increase the public understanding of the disease which causes AIDS. The mission statement for the AIDS Task Force expands on this idea, striving to reduce incidences of the disease as well as improve the quality of life for those who are afflicted.

The actual walk itself began at 2:00 p.m. and lasted till 4:00 p.m.. At the 2.5 k mark there was a stand that handed out refreshments to the walkers. When walkers returned to Lawton Park team awards were presented.

photo / kasey butcher

The aids walk involved the joint effort of all those participating. Walker were expected to raise money before participating in the seventh annual 5k walk.

As of March 2003, there were a total of 11,021 reported cases of HIV infection and/or AIDS in Indiana, with nearly 3.977 AIDS-related deaths reported to date.

There are an estimated 800,000 to 900,000 people currently living with HIV in the U.S

40,000 new HIV infections occur every year.

Patients can not realize for years that they even have the virus, until blood tests are done.

50 % of those newly infected with HIV are between the ages of 14 - 25.

As of today 11,800,000 young people are living with HIV or Aids

To learn more visit www.aidsfortwayne.org

photo / colin knapp

- quick facts -

* The Jorgensen YMCA branch is over 3,000 members strong making it the third largest YMCA in the greater Fort Wayne area

* The new structure, set to open October 1st, cost $8,000,000 and will take up over 78,000 square feet.

* The Jorgenson branch has also started a Community Gifts Campaign. Since it began, the program has raised $650,000.

The world doesn't go on summer vacation. Here's a briefing of some major national news stories that happened

While you were away...

kasey butcher
associate news editor

Many students lose touch with the news when they go on vacation. However, many important and controversial events happened over this past summer. Some of these events were a political three ring circus, a tragic accident, a controversial debate over a religious monument and the return of a prisoner of war.

At 1:47 PM on Wednesday, July 16, 86 year-old Russell Weller ran his 1992 midsize Buick LeSabre into three blocks of a crowded Santa Monica farmers' market and only stopped when a hit pedestrian landed on his windshield. Weller couldn't stop and said that he may have hit the gas pedal instead of the brake. Although he wasn't under the influence alcohol or medication, Weller managed to injure 54 people and kill nine. Of those injured, fourteen had critical injuries and two were under the age of two. Police have interviewed more than 100 witnesses in the case.

"Now we're attempting to determine whether this was a straight accident--medically related--criminal negligence or criminal homicide," Santa Monica Police Chief James T. Butts Jr. said.

Witnesses had conflicting accounts of the incident, but many said that Weller appeared to be accelerating and seemed "befuddled."

"He looked very, very confused," witness Joe Crisman said. "I think he was just mentally out of touch. He seemed confused when he stepped out of the car. He definitely shouldn't have been behind the wheel. He was definitely not quite with it."

As of the press date there was no new information on this accident.

On July 22, former prisoner of war Jessica Lynch returned home to West Virginia for the first time since her April 1 rescue from an Iraqi hospital in Nasiriya. The twenty- year- old member of the 507th Maintenance Company of Fort Bliss, Texas was taken prisoner on March 23 when her unit was hit with a rocket-propelled grenade and the Humvee she was riding in crashed into an Army tractor-trailer. Lynch's injuries in the attack included three breaks in her leg, a fractured disk in her back, a broken arm, lacerations on her head and multiple breaks in her right foot.

After a stay in Washington D.C.'s Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Lynch was decorated with a Bronze Star, Purple Heart, and POW medal.

Lynch received an enthusiastic welcome at home, including a marching band playing for her and thousands of locals waving American flags.

"It's the biggest thing that's ever happened to this place," one resident said. "This is what put Elizabeth and Wirt County on the map."

Volunteer workers have also added an extra wing to the Lynches's home to help meet the needs of Lynch, who has undergone four months of recuperation after her rescue.

"It's great to be home," Lynch said. "I would like to say thank you to everyone who hoped and hoped and prayed for my safe return."

On August 19. Lynch was granted honorable medical discharge from the army.

On July 23, 58 Californian counties submitted 1.3 million signatures, enough to enact the first recall election for governor in the state's history. Officials only needed 987, 158 signatures, or twelve percent of the total votes cast in the 2002 election. In an election originally set for October 7. California voters will answer yes or no on whether or --not they want current the governor, Gray Davis, to be removed from office and then on whom they want to replace him. Originally, a vote for who will replace Davis would not count if the voter didn't also decide whether or not they wanted Davis to be removed from office, but U.S. District Judge Barry Moskowitz declared the statute unconstitutional and the restriction was removed.

Davis, however, was not going out of office with out a fight. He requested that the California State Supreme Court stop the recall. The court refused, but pro-Davis organizations persist claiming that the price of the recall election is too high. The election will cost the already debt-ridden state thirty-five million dollars.

"Just because you're mad at somebody doesn't mean you spend $35 million to oust somebody," Lt. Governor Cruz Bustamante said.

Many voters, however, blame Gray for the state's thirty-eight billion dollar deficit, and in June Davis' approval rating dropped twenty-one percent. On June 23, Davis said that he would not resign if the recall bid succeeded.

"Seven million people went to the polls last November...and asked me to be governor of this state for four more years, and I have an obligation to them," he said.

The deadline for filing for candidacy for the recall election, which has been dubbed a "three ring circus" by its opposition, was August 9. To qualify, a person needed to pay a $3,500 fee and provide the signatures of 65 registered voters. If the fee could not be paid, the potential candidate could still qualify if they collected 10,000 signatures. Current candidates include columnist Arianna Huffington, Hustler magazine publisher Larry Flynt, child actor Gary Coleman, Lt. Governor. Cruz Bustamante, former commissioner of Major League Baseball Peter Ueberroth, Davis's opponent in the 2002 election, Bill Simon, and Terminator star Arnold Schwarzenegger.

"When I came here in 1968 from Austria as an immigrant, it's the last thing I thought, that one day 35 years later I would be standing here filing the papers to run for governor of the great state of California," Schwarzenegger said after turning in his qualification papers on August 9.

The election was originally set for October 7, but as of September 15 it has been postponed due to an undecided date until California voting technology can be updated. Voters in the state currently use a mix of computer or punch-card methods. Californian officials are delaying the election in order to prevent a controversy like that of Florida in the 2000 presidential election. If voters decide to remove Davis from office, his replacement will only need to win the most votes, not the majority.

On August 23, the Supreme court refused to prevent the removal of Alabama Justice Roy Moore's monument of the Ten Commandments. Moore is being forced to move the stone monument because it is considered unconstitutional. In 1980, the Supreme Court ordered that the Ten Commandments be removed from public classroom walls.

According to Moore's lawyers, he should be permitted to "establish justice by acknowledging the guidance of Almighty God, placed upon him by his oath of office and the Constitution of Alabama."

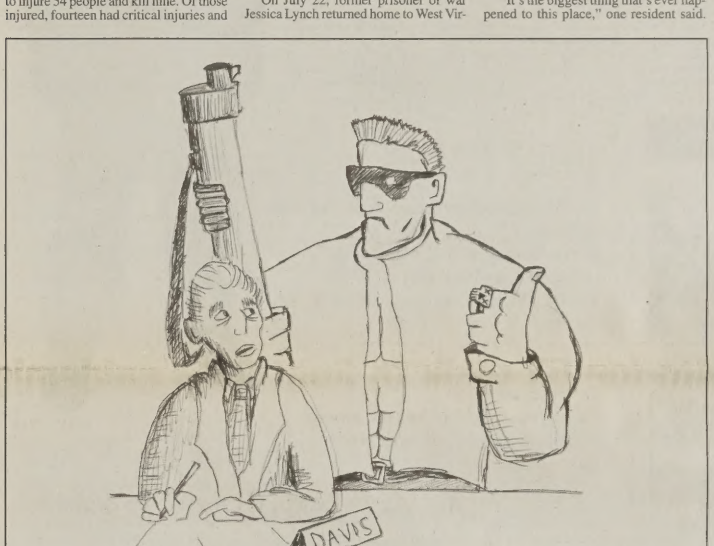
After appeals court denied Moore a stay twice, the Supreme Court's decision was no surprise.

"It's not like somebody's about to face execution, if the court doesn't enter a stay the person will be dead and the appeal will be moot," Specialist in Supreme Court practice David Frederick said. "If the Supreme Court were to decide it's constitutional, it can always be put back."

Recently, Moore was suspended for failing to comply with the court order to remove the monument. Moore was greatly distressed by the lawsuit against him.

"This nation was founded upon the laws of God, not upon the Koran," Moore said. "That's clear in the Declaration [of Independence], so it wouldn't fit history and it wouldn't fit law [to remove the monument]."

For every day after the 27th that the monument remains in Moore's court, the state may be fined 5000 dollars by U.S. District Judge Myron Thompson. Thompson, however, will allow the 5,300 pound monument to be moved to a less public area, like Moore's office. For more information see page 4b.



cartoon / evan childers

The Quoteworthy Quiz: *Match these quotes to who said them and then to their corresponding news story.*

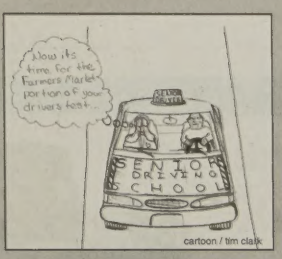
1. *"It's not like somebody's about to face execution...If the Supreme Court were to decide it's constitutional, it can always be put back."*
2. *"When I came here in 1968 from Austria as an immigrant, it's the last thing I thought, that one day 35 years later I would be standing here filing the papers to run for governor of the great state of California."*
3. *"So now we're attempting to determine whether this was a straight accident-medically related-criminal negligence or criminal homicide."*
4. *"Seven million people went to the polls last November...and asked me to be governor of this state for four more years, and I have an obligation to them."*
5. *"It's great to be home. I would like to say thank you to everyone who hoped and prayed for my safe return."*

Who said it?

- a *California Governor Gray Davis*
- b *Former POW Jessica Lynch*
- c *Actor Arnold Schwarzenegger*
- d *David Frederick, specialist in Supreme Court practice*
- e *Santa Monica Police Chief James T. Butts Jr.*

About what?

- a *Prisoner of War returns home*
- b *Ten Commandments monument removal*
- c *Market Car Accident*
- d *California Recall Election*



cartoon / tim clark

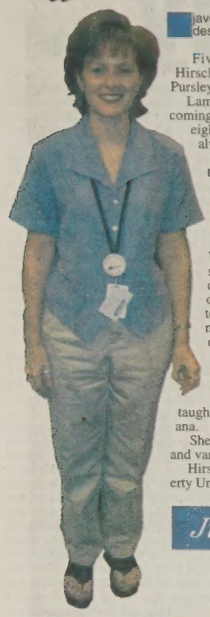
Answers 1)d,b 2)c,d 3)e,c 4)a,e 5)b,a

the Spartana EXALT

(ĭg-zôlt') v. to glorify; praise; honor

New school year brings new educators

Staff members added to math, business, science, and technology departments



javed sayed
designer

Five new teachers, Jim Lamping, Karen Hirschy, Julie Slater, Bekki Vail, and Randy Pursley, have started teaching at the school.

Lamping is one of the new teachers. Before coming to Homestead, Lamping taught math for eight years at Woodside. While there Lamping always kept an eye out for jobs at Homestead.

"My goal was to be a high school teacher," Lamping said.

Although Lamping was already familiar with many of the staff members and students at Homestead before he became a teacher here, moving to Homestead still demanded adjustment and adaptation. At Woodside, Lamping was used to block scheduling, which meant he taught each class for an hour and a half at a time, every-other day. Also, the students at Homestead tend to be more mature than those at the middle school level, which makes teaching easier.

Hirschy is another addition to the faculty. Unlike Lamping, she is new to the Southwest Allen County School district. Before coming to Homestead, Hirschy taught at Belmont High School in Decatur, Indiana.

She teaches Desktop publishing, business math, and various other classes in room 516.

Hirschy earned her Bachelor's Degree at Liberty University, before getting her master's degree at Ball State University.

"Homestead has great students, they are very hard working and responsible," Hirschy said.

Another math teacher that has been added to the staff this year is Slater. Slater teaches Algebra one and ISTEP problem solving in room 501. She is from Indiana and went to college at the Purdue campus in Fort Wayne. So far Slater is enjoying her job.

> "Homestead has great students, they are very hard working and responsible."
> -Karen Hirschy

"I'm happy to be here. I feel very fortunate to be work in such a positive environment," Slater said. "The students here are outstanding."

Her new teaching position is her first , although before coming to Homestead High School she was a student teacher at Belmont High School.

Vail, a former Homestead graduate, has come back to teach students biology in room 208. Before commencing work at Homestead, Vail taught seventh, eighth, and ninth grade science at Carroll Middle School.

Although Vail thought that the students at both school were similar, she thought that Homestead offers more extracurricular activities.

"I'm really excited to be back here," Vail said.

Another recent addition to the Homestead staff is technology teacher, Pursley. Pursley graduated from Purdue University. He teaches technology education and a pre-engineering course in room 426. Before being hired at Homestead, Pursley was a student teacher in West Lafayette.

Although, he likes the atmosphere at both schools, Pursley believes that Homestead has better technology labs.

"[They are] nice classrooms and labs," Pursley said.

In addition to teaching here, Pursley also plans to coach the wrestling team this year.

The additional teachers added to the staff this year will contribute in making the school an enriching environment.

photos/colin knapp

Julie Slater, math teacher

Vital Facts

Subjects: Algebra and ISTEP math problem solving
Room Number: 501
College: Purdue campus in Fort Wayne
Teaching History: Student teacher at Belmont High School
Favorite food: Desserts
Favorite vacation spot: Caribbean Cruise
Hobbies: Watching sports

Randy Pursley, technology teacher

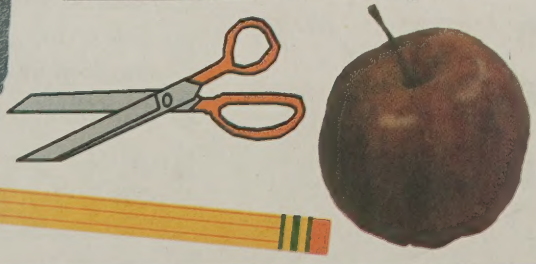
Vital Facts

Subjects: Technology education, pre-engineering course
Room Number: 426
College: Purdue University
Teaching History: Student teacher at West Lafayette
Impression of Homestead: [They are] nice classrooms and labs
Favorite Food: Steak
Favorite vacation spot: Cozumel, Mexico
Hobbies: Exercising, lifting weights
Pets: None

Karen Hirschy, business teacher

Vital Facts

Subjects: Desktop publishing, business math
Room Number: 516
College: Liberty University, Ball State University
Teaching History: Teacher at Belmont High School
Hobbies: Music, singing, snow ski
Favorite Food: Cheesecake
Favorite vacation spot: Florida



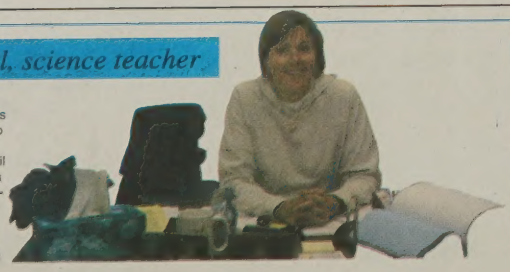
Jim Lamping, mathematics teacher

Vital Facts

Subjects: Geometry, Algebra II
Room Number: 505
Hobbies: Playing the guitar, singing
Teaching History: Teacher at Woodside Middle School
Pets: Dog
Favorite Food: Pizza
Favorite Vacation Spot: Disney World

Bekki Vail, science teacher

Right: Pictured on the right is the newest addition to the science department. Bekki Vail joined the faculty as a biology teacher.



photo/zach hetrick

Vital Facts

Subjects: Biology
Room Number:
College: Liberty University, Ball State University
Teaching History: Teacher at Carroll Middle School
Favorite food: Pasta
Favorite vacation spot: England
Hobbies: Reading, cooking, hanging out with friends

THE SPARTANA

SPORTS & VIEWS

B

September 19, 2003 Contact the Sports and Views editor at TheSpartana@hotmail.com

photo / zach hetrick

Spartans even record

tyler keena
designer

On a clear night in late summer, half an hour past seven, the struggling, young Homestead football team finally turned its season in the right direction.

Pre-season, the Spartans were ranked ninth in the state, following a 10-1 record of last year. In the last four years, Homestead has lost only six games. Clearly the pressure was on before the first play of the season.

With high expectations, the season got off on the right foot with a 56-13 victory against the Huntington North Vikings. Matt Witham (11) completed two passes to Nate Carden (11) for the first two touchdowns of the game. Ryan Rahrig (11) then raced in 31 yards for the team's third touchdown, giving the Spartans a 20-0 lead. By the end of the game, Homestead had gained 541 yards on offense, while holding the Vikings to only 41 yards on offense.

The Spartans then dropped two straight games, one a 6-20 loss, in front of a home crowd against Warsaw, and then lost a nail biter 16-17 against Bellmont.

Against Bellmont, Homestead held a seven point lead the whole second half until the last minute of the game when Bellmont scored a touchdown and then converted for two points on a fortunate play to take the lead from Homestead and win by one.

Since the Spartans returned only three starters, Ryan Koepke (12), Ryan Torres (12), and Kevin Bush (12), from last year, inexperience may have contributed to the loss.

"Inexperience will always be a factor in the beginning. But now four games into the season, everyone is an experienced varsity player," Duke Lyons (12) said.

With the close defeat at the hands of the Bellmont Braves looming in their minds, the Spartans routed the Columbia City Eagles nine minutes into the game to solidify the victory on Homecoming night. Rahrig ran 77 yards on the Spartans first offensive play of the game to give them a 7-0 lead. Tim Reid (11) and Ben Baenon (12) also added scores to give Homestead a 21-0 lead at the end of the first quarter. After a plethora of Homestead turnovers in the second half, their defense was forced to play flawless, giving up only 211 yards and zero scores the whole game. The final score was 21-0, bringing their to 2-2.

The Spartans feel like they have a good chance of winning the rest of their regular season games - they haven't lost more than one conference game in one season in the last eight years.

"I believe we can go undefeated the rest of the regular season," said Nick Zee-Chang (12). If the Spartans do not win the rest of their regular season games, they will have lost more games than any Homestead football team in the last six years. Football at Homestead is tradition, and none of the players want to break it.

"We're a family, and we will pull through together to meet the high expectations," Lyons said.

The Spartans next game will be September 19 against the Bellmont Braves.

Nate Carden (11) photo / zach hetrick

photo / will vragovic

Above: The Painted Boys cheer during the game. During every game, the Painted Boys lead the home crowd along with the cheerleaders. Right: Kevin Bush (12) runs the ball during the game against Columbia City. Bush rushed 11 times for 73 against the Eagles. Bush also played quarterback all of the second half, completing one of nine passes. Bottom Right: Jarrod Shaw (11) gets a drink and some rest on the sidelines. Shaw is one of many new players to the starting lineup. Bottom Left: Nate Carden (11) gives Columbia City's Kurt Downing (12) a stiff arm. Carden caught one pass for 21 yards against Columbia City.

Kurt Downing, Columbia City (12) photo / zach hetrick

Boys soccer on track for a run at state title

tyler keena
designer

With another year of boys soccer starting, the next round of the Homestead-Canterbury rivalry is heating up. With the Spartans ranked ninth and the Cavaliers ranked fifth in the state, a new battle is sure to follow past-years suit and leave the two teams playing it out to see who will take this year's crown of the best boys soccer team in the area.

In the past, the Spartans' season has ended with shoot-outs, close calls, and defeats against the Cavaliers. The last time Homestead won sectional was in 1999 when the team beat Canterbury in the final, 2-1 in a shoot out. Every year after that they have been ranked in the top ten in the state, but they have not been able to endure their rivals' strength. This year, however, the Spartan team is hoping they will be able to overcome their long time adversaries and once again claim the title of champion.

"We still have a lot to work on, but I think we have the potential that by the end of the season we will be able to beat Canterbury," varsity player Shane Connolly (11) said. "Once we work out the kinks, we will have a good chance of making it to state."

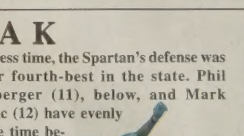
Although the team still feels very strong, it is starting off the season with less experience then in past years. After losing seven senior starters last year, it has had to fill a lot of spots with underclassmen. But the team still feels they match up nicely with the Cavaliers who also lost a considerable number of starters who have graduated.

"I would say our biggest weakness right now is our inexperience," Connolly said. "From last year we only have three returning seniors on the team, which created tons of openings that had to be filled for this years team. But once the underclassmen get a few more games under them, I think we will have a great chance at being as successful as we hope to be."

PEAK

As of press time, the Spartan's defense was tied for fourth-best in the state. Phil Hershberger (11), below, and Mark Vragovic (12) have evenly split the time between the pipes.

PERFORMER



The team will also be able to play at the Spartan stadium again, instead of playing all their home games at the Plex like the team had to do last year.. The field was closed last year due to drainage problems and uneven level of the ground. Approximately 40,000 dollars were spent on the reworking of the soccer field, and it seems as if the work has made a noticeable difference on the field..

"There were tons of times when a puddle on the field or a dip near the goal caused the ball to do weird things in the middle of play," Connolly said. "There were times when a break-away would be stopped just because the ball would hit something on the field that would make it bounce away from the player. Plus, we have our own field again. That always helps, knowing the field and the turf."

To be successful this year, the team has already started to make plans on how they will stay on top in the area. Part of its plan is to come together more and gain more experience from games as well as practices. But a lot of it has to do with the conditioning of the team's.

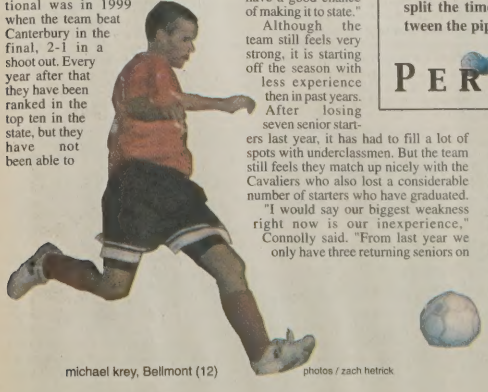
"The conditioning is very important for us to be able to stay up with the better teams," goalie Adam Hakey (11) said. "Our coach, Adam Strak, said our game play was good the first few matches, but at times it did seem that some of our players were getting fatigued towards the end of the games. Against good teams that can't happen."

As of now, the team has a record of 7-1-1, only losing to Brownsburg, and tying Carmel 1-1 in their opening game. The team recently took over number one on the News Sentinel's Boys' Soccer Powerpoll. They dethroned the Cavaliers, who have struggled this year, from their long hold of the number one spot. The Spartans take this as a good sign since now not only are they recognizing their ability to beat Canterbury, but area spectators are also realizing their potential this year.

"Ultimately, our goal is to win state," said Hakey. "We've come so close in past years, and we have the talent to pull it off. And of course, we want to beat Canterbury."

On September 15, the Spartans beat DeKalb 2-0, avenging last years loss in sectionals. Matt Sulkan (12) and Ben Haifley (11) each scored a goal in the Spartan's victory.

As a result of their win the Spartan Boys' Soccer Team is now poised for the NHC championship.



michael krey, Bellmont (12) photos / zach hetrick

Ben Haifley (11) photos / zach hetrick

the Spartana DISPORT

(dĭ- spôrt´) v. to occupy oneself with diversion or amusement

Spartan Briefs

Girls Golf

The ladies golf team started their season on August 5th against Snider and then played Northrop on August 6. The girls continued their season at the Huntington Invitational on August 7, the Northrop Invitational on August 8, the Trojan Class on August 11, the Snider Tournament on August 14, the Northrop Invitational on August 16, and the Homestead Invitational on August 18. In addition, the team played East Noble on August 19, Columbia City on August 21, Huntington North on August 25, Bellmont on August 26, DeKalb on August 28, Carroll on September 2, Norwell on September 4, New Haven on September 9, and Leo on September 17. Their home course is Chestnut Hills. Sectionals are this Saturday in Parlor City.

Boys Soccer

The boys varsity soccer team season opener was August 14th at home against Northrop. Then, the boys played Canterbury on August 27, East Noble on August 28, Columbia City on September 2, Bellmont on September 9, Center Grove on September 13, and Dekalb on September 15. Tonight, the JV team plays Concordia at home at 4:15. Other home games this season include Huntington North on the 24th, Dwenger on the 25th, Norwell on the 29th, Bishop Luers on October 4th, and New Haven on October 6th.

Girls Soccer

The girls varsity soccer team began their season with a game against Canterbury on August 26th, at home. Then, the team played East Noble on August 28, Columbia City on September 2, Bishop Dwenger on September 4, Bishop Luers on September 6, Bellmont on September 9, Noblesville on September 13, Dekalb on September 15, and Northrop on September 18. Both varsity and JV will be going up against Carroll at home on the 22nd at 5:00. They will also be playing Snider on the 27th, and Norwell on the 29th.

Girls Volleyball

All three of the girls volleyball teams started their seasons on August 18th against Concordia. Then, the team played Bishop Luers on August 19, Lafayette-Jefferson on August 23, Northside on August 26, Wayne on August 28, Huntington North on September 2, Bishop Dwenger on September 4, Marion on September 9, Elmhurst on September 10, Snider on September 15, Harding on September 17, and Columbia City on September 18. The girls also played at the Bellmont Invitational on September 14. The rest of the girls' matches will be Lafayette-Jefferson on September 20, Dekalb on September 23, East Noble on September 25, New Haven on September 30, Carroll on October 2, Bellmont on October 7, Norwell on October 9, South Side on October 14, and Leo on October 16. The team will also be hosting the Homestead Tournament on September 27. In addition, the freshman invitational is October 4 at Norwell. Finally, the Penn Tournament is October 18 at Penn. Sectionals start on October 23 at North Side.

Girls Cross Country

The girls cross country teams kicked off its season at the DeKalb Invitational on August 19th. The team then played Elmhurst, Bishop Luers, Snider, and Harding on August 28, Columbia City on September 2, East Noble and Bellmont on September 9, and Carroll and DeKalb on September 16. The girls also attended the Bruin Invitational at Northop on September 13. Tomorrow, they will attend the West Noble Invitational at 9:30 a.m.

Boys Cross Country

The boys cross country team also started their season on August 19 at the Dekalb Invitational. They ran at all of the same meets as the girls. The boys will next run at the West Noble Invitational on September 20, the Snider Classic on September 27, and NHC on October 8.

Varsity Football

This year the varsity football team started off the season with a game against Huntington North on August 22nd at Huntington North. They also played Warsaw at home on the 29th, and lost by one point to East Noble on September 5th at East Noble. Then, the team played Columbia at their Homecoming on September 12. They will be going up against Bellmont tonight at home at 7:00. After that, the boys will face DeKalb on September 26, Carroll on October 3, Norwell on October 10, and New Haven on October 17. Sectionals start on October 24.

J.V. Football

The junior varsity football team started their season on August 22 against Huntington North. Then, they played Warsaw on August 30, and East Noble on September 6, Columbia City on September 13. They will be playing Bellmont on September 20, DeKalb on September 27, Carroll on October 4, Norwell on October 11, and New Haven on October 18.

Freshman Football

The freshman football team started their season against Huntington North on the 28 of August. Then, the boys played Warsaw on September 4, East Noble on September 11, and Columbia City on September 18. The boys will play Bellmont on September 25, Dekalb on October 2, Carroll on October 9, and Norwell on October 16. Their last game of the season will be New Haven on October 23.

Swinging into the season

Girls golf team sets sights on state

matt anderson
writer

After two consecutive trips to state and a thirteenth place finish, the girls golf team looks to make it a hat trick and continue their streak of state qualifications.

Although the team did not place as high as they would have liked to at the state competition last year, they still felt they had been extremely successful just because they had made it that far. But to make it back to state this year, the team feels they must ban together as the season goes on and continue to improve.

"I think we have a great chance of making it back to the state competition," Co-Captain Connie Shim (12) said. "But we won't make it without practice and optimistic behavior."

Last year the team lost two varsity players to graduation, but still have four players returning as seniors on the varsity team. Because of this they feel the experience needed to do well has already been attained by most of the competing players.

photo / zach hetrick

Connie Shim (12) gets ready put during a tournament against Huntington North on August 27. The tournament, which was originally scheduled to be played on August 25, was rescheduled because of rain. Below: The girls are prepped about the green's condition before the tournament. The team's next match will be sectionals tomorrow at Parlor City.

"We lost 3 seniors, two of which were on varsity last year," Shim said. "When we lost our 1st and 3rd varsity players we thought we would be struggling all year, but I think we've bounced back well."

The golf team has already played all of it's home matches at Chestnut Hills, and will be playing out the rest of the season at away matches.

"Home matches can give a team a huge advantage," Dickmeyer said. "You play at that course all the time, and know what you can and can't do on it. Whereas playing at other teams courses, you don't always know how to play a ball."

This past Saturday the girls finished second at the NHC Conference Invitational, missing first by only one stroke to East Noble. Although Shim finished in first place overall with an 81, the team was not able to overcome the Nights.

"We really felt we didn't live up to our expectations last saturday," Ashley Rohlfing (10) said. "We had already beaten East Noble by a considerable amount earlier this year. But what made it worse was the fact we only lost by one stroke. If we could have just made a two putt instead of a three, we could have walked away with another conference championship. But instead we broke the five year streak of conference champion for Homestead."

Even though the team was let down at Conference, they still feel they are good enough and have enough giong for them to go back to state.

"We really want to get back down to state," Shim said. "We just need to continue to play our best golf, and then go down to state and show them how good we really are."

Girls volleyball team spikes off into a new season

ashley butler
writer

Bumping, setting, and spiking their way to victory, the girls varsity volleyball team is working and playing hard this year.

The team has won 7 games and has **only lost to Concordia**, one of the top teams in the state.

"So far we're doing great; we defeated Bishop Luers which is one of our main rivals," Jill DeArmond (11) said.

The varsity volleyball team is mostly known for their defense, however they now excel in both areas of the game.

"We're a really tall team and because of our height we tend to play better defense, but overall we're pretty well rounded," Sarah Pratt (12) said.

Although the team works diligently at technicalities, their predominant goal this year is to keep positive attitudes.

"We've learned that we need to focus on having good attitudes to succeed," Pratt said. "It's important to get along with each other on and off the court."

Although the team is accomplishing their goals, other area teams will be tough competition; area teams including Concordia and Snider are generally some of the best in the state.

> "We love it when the gym is full; people cheer when someone gets a kill, or boo when they think the referee has made a bad call."
>
> -Sarah Pratt (12)

Every year the varsity volleyball team hosts "Pack the Gym Night" in an effort to entice students to come to games who would not normally attend.

Flyers are passed out at school and around the Southwest area welcoming everyone to come and watch when the team plays their most significant competition.

"We love it when the gym is full; people cheer when someone gets a kill, or boo when they think the referee has made a bad call," Pratt said.

This year, the gym was "packed" with fans encouraging Homestead to defeat Snider on Monday, September 15.

"Snider is our biggest opponent, that game should be interesting to watch," DeArmond said.

There are seven seniors this year, giving the team a great deal of experience and talent.

Fortunately, the team returns most of its starters from last year.

"We're a pretty small team, but losing seniors didn't contribute to that since we only lost one last year," DeArmond said.

Members of the team hope to go further in the tournament this year than they have in a long time.

"Hopefully we'll keep improving," Pratt said. "It'll definitely be hard, but we all hope that we can get in the final game of sectionals and beat Snider."

Boys cross country starts running

photo / jack rozman

Nick Smith (10) starts off during a meet against Columbia City. The boys have been practicing since the middle of the summer.

caitlin myers
writer

For the boys cross country team, it is not going to be as easy of a running season as it was last year. With a young team, the boys will have to practice and work harder to make it to the top. Their season will be full of long runs, running in bad weather conditions, team parties, after meet dinners and a lot more to hopefully make the season successful.

Although the summer has come to an end, unfortunately the heat has not. Temperatures reaching the high nineties have not even phased this dedicated team. Already having ran in six races, four of them were with this type of bad weather, the boys'season is off to a great start.

The boys first ran in the DeKalb Invitational on Tuesday, August 19. At this race, the boys learned the names and the times of the other runners that they would be competing against for the rest of the season.

"At the DeKalb Invitational, my time was a lot faster than last year and mostly everyone else's times were faster," Steve Clark (10) said. "I finished 9th out of about 200."

As the team approaches the middle of the season, the guys are working to earn one of the seven varsity spots.

This year, the freshmen team consists of eight runners. Dillon Kimmel, Kyle Knezovich and Danny White are three of the freshmen that have finished in varsity positions throughout the past two weeks. Most of the freshmen ran when they were in middle school and hope to help the team now and in the future.

"I have been running for three years and I heard Homestead had a good running program," Kimmel said. "I like to run and hope to continue running varsity."

The cross country team season would not be complete without the team parties and dinners. Outside of school, the boys enjoy having pasta parties before running in a large meet, such as conference or sectionals. After some of the meets, the boys also like to go out to dinner as a team. At a cross country party, the guys will usually play a game of ultimate frisbee, go swimming, or play a game of soccer.

"The team seems to get along pretty well. Some of the freshmen are really shy and the others are outgoing," Ben Townsend (10) said. "The upperclassmen have already broken in the freshmen."

Since the team is so young (it consists of mostly freshmen), the upperclassmen will be expected to take charge of the team. Number one runner Clark will lead the team, followed by Townsend and Ross Schomburg (11).

"I don't think anyone is expecting much from us this year," Clark said. "We are a young team and few people are injured. Hopefully we can make more of a splash next year."

Dick Shenfeld is a health and physical education teacher at Homestead. This is his 29th season as coach of the boys cross country team.

"They are a young team and have never raced at such a high level before," Shenfeld said. "They are capable of a good season, but I do not want to put too much pressure on them. They will continue to improve and we will just build on that."

(dĭs'ə-pā'shən)
n. An amusement; diversion

the Spartana

DISSIPATION

3b

September 19, 2003

Boys tennis becomes pride of Athletics Dept.

tyler keena
writer

Competing against several high school teams from across the state, the boys tennis team finished in second place at the North Central Invitational in Indianapolis, IN on Saturday, August 30. The boys defeated Dekalb (5-0) at their first home match on September 4.

At the Invitational, the doubles team of Kyle Brown (12) and Alex Bienz (12) placed first in the number one doubles category. Number one singles player Sam Rocke (12) placed fourth in his division.

"It was pretty awesome," Brown said. "We did better than anybody thought we would do. We tied for second place but we were expecting fifth or sixth place."

The boys tennis team commenced their season with an away match against West Lafayette on August 23. The boys had started practicing three weeks prior to their first match. During the school year, the tennis team practices daily for two hours and participates in matches on numerous Saturdays throughout the year.

At the Red Robin Invitational held at home on September 6, the boys managed to defeat Delta (4-1) and Southside (5-0). Rocke defeated Delta's number one singles player Blain Keller, and number three singles player Cameron Huffman defeated Delta's Jared Bust. Both the doubles teams were able to triumph over Delta.

This season, the team's primary goal is to qualify for the state competition, which will be held at North Central High School in Indianapolis on October 18. The boys made an appearance at state last year and wish to visit Indianapolis for the second consecutive year.

"[Our goal is to] make it to state again," Rocke said. "And we want to beat West Lafayette at semi-state like last year. We also want to beat the tougher competition at regionals."

The team's strengths lie in experience, leadership and talent. Many members on the team have had a place on the varsity roster for several years. Also, out of seven varsity members, four are seniors.

"[Our strengths are] leadership and experience," Brown said. "We've got four seniors and a lot of talent."

The team members feel they will be most challenged against Carroll and Concordia in the NHC. The boys will also face competition at semi-state and at the Homestead Round Robin Invitational on September 6.

"The tough matches are in Indianapolis," Rocke said. "The match against Delta in the Round Robin was tough as well."

The team is working towards remaining focused throughout the season and playing especially well at regionals and semi-state.

"We are going to work on keeping our focus against the less intimidating teams," Rocke said. "Believing we can win will also be a key issue."

Although the team lost two valuable seniors last year, the boys have gained two notable freshmen on the varsity team.

"The freshmen were really surprising," Brown said. "Nobody really expected them to bring so much to the team. They have both done well in their matches."

"The seniors are tough to lose but the freshmen have made up for them," Rocke said.

The team is coached by Jim Clark. The assistant coach for the team is science teacher Jim Shull.

"Mr. Clark is the head coach," Rocke said. "[We get along] really pretty well. They condition us pretty hard some days and then it is easier on other days."

At upcoming matches, the boys will be facing Norwell, Carmel and Columbia City. They will be attending regionals on Tuesday, October 7. Semi-state will be held on October 11 at home.

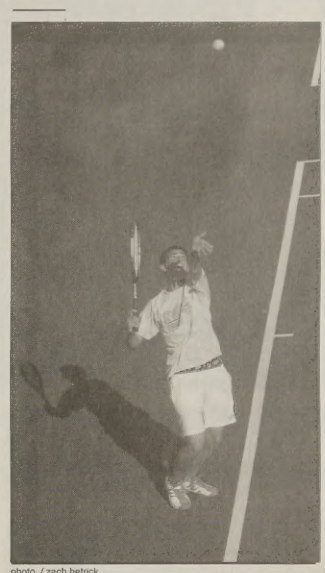


photo / zach hetrick
Matt Anderson (11) severs against Carroll.

Alumnus playing for Minnesota Twins

tyler keena
writer

Growing up, the dream of almost every young boy is to become a professional athlete. For one Homestead alumna, this dream is coming true.

Rob Bowen, who graduated from Homestead in 1999, is playing for Major League Baseball's Minnesota Twins. In his career at Homestead, he hit .376 with 12 home runs, 66 RBI (runs batted in), and 67 runs. He also received High School Player of the Year honors in 1999 and was a third-team All-American. He also was given All-State honors in Indiana in 1998 and 1999. In his senior season, he aided Homestead in reaching a 25-6 record, the best in school history.

"When he came to Homestead, we hoped he had the ability to play professionally," Bowen's high school coach and current Homestead baseball coach Keith Potter said. "But we didn't know about his work ethic. He developed his abilities by working hard."

Bowen, who was just recently called up from the Rochester Red Wings (AAA) on August 20 to the Twins, has only had two at bats in the majors thus far, which resulted in a ground out and a fly out.

Bowen, who is currently the Twins' back-up catcher, may not be getting a shot at the starting job any time soon.

"He is playing behind current starter A.J. Pierzynski, and the number one draft pick overall from the 2000 draft (Joe Mauer) is playing AA behind him," Potter said.

Potter also added that a lot of teams are in need of quality catchers and Bowen could be a starter in a couple years if he gets on the right team.

"He's in the major leagues as a 22 year-old," said Potter. "Most players don't make it until they're 24 or 25."

For now, Bowen will probably finish out the year with the Twins, who are fighting for a playoff spot in the American League Central.

photo courtesy / keith potter

Left to right:: Nick Byall, high school friend; Keith Potter, former coach; Troy Byall, high school friend; Bowen; Jamie Frasier, former coach; Amy Waugh, former Homestead basketball player currently starting at Xavier.

Girl's cross country led by sophomores

jessica bird
writer

With experienced Spartan runners, three new freshman, and a lot of hard work put in during the preseason, the girl's cross country team is anxious for the season to swing into full gear.

The first non-invitational meet of the girls cross country season was at home against Elmhurst, Bishop Luers, and Snider. Samantha Lee (10) won the race for Homestead with a time of 16:46. Joy Nordin (10) and Bliss Cook (11) took second and third place. Then on September 2, the lady Spartans hosted a meet against Columbia City. The girls won 74 to 17 with the help of Lee (17:03) in first place, followed again by Nordin and Cook.

The following meet was at home against East Noble and Bellmont. The Spartans took the win with a score of 25-65. The leaders for Homestead in this race were Lee (16:31) in third place, followed by Nordin (16:51) in forth place, and Julie Krouse (11) with a time of (16:55). The girls got second place at the Northrop Invitational on September 13. Lee contributed to the win with getting third place, running a 15:02, while Nordin ran a 15:36.

"My goal for the season is to break 15 minutes and get into the top 40 at state," Cook said, "[As far as times so far], I just can't wait until we get to faster courses."

The team held a running camp for middle school students this summer, that took place in the environmental center. At the camp, the Spartans worked on the basics of running with the younger kids.

"It was fun," Alex Batell (10) said, "I liked seeing who the freshmen runners were, and what talent was coming up."

Apart from running a camp, eight of the girls attended the Indiana Cross Country Camp, a five day camp in Bloomington, Indiana. At the camp the girls ran, worked on the fundamentals of running such as eating healthy, and attended classes on improving running skills.

"It was really fun," Cook said, "I liked running on the course that we will hopefully be running on in November [at state.]"

Now that the school year has started the girls have practice everyday, other than meet days, after school. The amount and type of running performed at each practice varies.

"[What the girls do at each practice] depends on what day and what time of year, Coach Sara Wyss said, "[The practices] get much easier at the end of the season."

Last year, some members of the cross country team got an opportunity to run at state. LeAnn Sarka (12), Bliss Cook (11), Hannah Weide (11), Julie Krouse (11), Samantha Lee (10), Alex Batell (10), Joy Nordin (10), were among those participating at the event. All of the girls have goals for returning to state.

"I definitely thought I improved when I ran at state last year, but I thought I'd do better," said Cook, "The team did good because we beat Carmel."

As most coaches do, Mrs. Wyss has a common goal set for the girls.

"Our team goal is to get to the state finals for the ninth straight year," Wyss said.

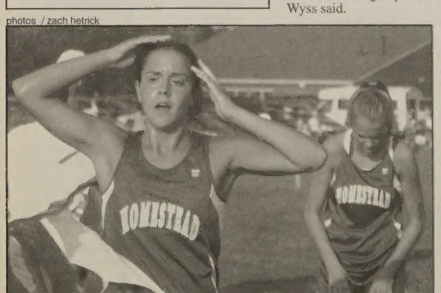
Above: Sam Lee runs at Columbia City on September 2. Below: Hannah Smith (9) races against Columbia City. Bottom left: Julie Krouse decelerates in the chute following her run at Columbia City. The girls beat Columbia City 47-17.

PEAK PERFORMER

JOY NORDIN (10)

Nordin finished in second place against Elmhurst, Bishop Luers, and Snider, with a time of 17:23, then followed up with another second place finish against Columbia City with a time of 17:29. On September 14, Nordin ran a 15:36 at the Northrop invitational, finishing in seventh place. Nordin, along with Sam Lee (10), have led the Spartans as of press time to a perfect record of 4-0.

photos / zach hetrick



Girls soccer leads NHC with undefeated conference play

caitlin johnston
associate sports editor

With five games already under their belts, the girls soccer team sets many goals for the season ahead.

Largely lead by upperclassmen, the team shows promise for a successful season. After three showcase games at the Plex on August 22 and 23, the varsity girls made their debut in August 28th's game against East Noble. Alyssa Lee (10) scored three goals with one assist from Brittany Trevino (11), resulting in a 3-0 shutout. Junior varsity followed suit in their game against the Knights with a 9-0 win.

"We actually expected the East Noble game to be easier than it was," Lindsey Julius (11) said, "But late in the second half we pulled it together and started working as a team, which obviously paid off."

Although the varsity game against East Noble proved to be a display of offensive strengths, the team feels the need to focus on solidifying their defense.

"I think we will be pretty good by the end of this year," Mandy Eid (11) said, "But our defense is kind of new, so we still need to work on that."

On September 4 the girls played Dwenger, a close competitor in state rankings which tied the Spartans last year. The Saints got past Homestead's inexperienced defense to score in the first half, and the Spartans could not come back, ending the game with a 1-0 loss.

"We were really disappointed," Julius said, "But its still early in the season and we still have time to get our game polished."

Lead by seniors Angie Heyer, Kate Stevens, Laura Beck, and Brook Parish, the team hopes to follow up last year's season with another impressive one.

"Seniors are our role models," Eid said. "They always work hard and are very positive."

photo | jack rozman

Lindsey Julius (11) receives a pass against DeKalb. The Spartans won the match 10-0, bringing their conference record to 3-0.

Remaining positive seems key, as the girls are preparing for tough games against high caliber teams like Snider and Canterbury.

"We're working on team work and will be focusing on trying to get possession of the ball," Julius said. "Hopefully we can beat Snider this year since they beat us twice last year."

Last week proved helpful to the girls' record, with games against Bishop Luers and Bellmont on September 6 and 9, respectively. After barely winning the Luers game with a final score of 1-0, Bellmont seemed to be quite the confidence booster when the Spartans created a 7-0 shutout. Almost every offensive player got her time in the spotlight, with either an assist or a goal, with Heyer and Lee scoring two goals apiece.

This past weekend, however, was another disappointment, as the girls lost their Noblesville game 1-0 loss on September 13.

The girls attribute the frustrating Dwenger and Noblesville losses to a lack of experience on defense. Most of the defense consists of freshmen and sophomores. However, intense practices paired with knowledge gained in games will fortify the team's weaknesses and hopefully help them to excel this season.

"It'd be nice to make it back to semi-state, but it'd be even nicer to get all the way to state," Julius said. "It will take a lot of hard work, but this team has potential. We improve at every practice and hope to improve game after game."

4b
September 19, 2003

the Spartana
VERBOSE

(vər-bos) adj. Using or contianing an excessive number of words; wordy

Manasee Atre

Our judicial system recently acted in accordance with this precept when the federal courts ruled that the Ten Commandments must be removed from the Alabama Supreme Court. The Ten Commandments have no place in any government institutions. The Constitution of the United States establishes freedom of religion in this great country. Displaying the Ten Commandments in any public structure violates the "establishment" clause because it endorses one particular religion, Christianity, over others.

People practice many different religions in this country. Displaying the Ten Commandments is inequitable to the followers of these religions.

Those against the court ruling in Alabama claim that the Ten Commandments teach good morals. Even so, the teachings of many other religions, as well as nonreligious principles and values, perform that very same function. Opponents of the Alabama ruling have also argued that the removal of the block interferes in their practice of religion. People are free to practice as they wish in the private sphere; however, in the public arena (which is occupied by the wide spectrum of different religious convictions), one cannot impose one's beliefs on the rest of society.

One of the fundamental principles of this country is freedom of thought - people are free to believe and worship (or not) as they wish. The doctrine of separation of church and state is essential to upholding those principles. Our forefathers recognized long ago that freedom of religion was one of the underpinnings of a free society.

The import of the Constitution's First Amendment is perhaps most keen with regard to the judiciary - all people are equal in the eyes of our justice system.

Zafar Sayed

Wow, this guy is nuts. Well, maybe just a little disillusioned. Making oxymoronic statements like, "Its not about religion. Its about the acknowledgment of almighty God", is bound to raise a few eyebrows. Alabama Chief Justice Roy Moore must have known what was coming when in vain, he vowed to keep his job and a monument of the Ten Commandments in his courthouse. What of those who believe in no religion? Would they not feel a little leery of entering the judicial system of Alabama, one which seems to accept the Ten Commandments? Placing an openly religious monument in a very public setting, funded by tax payers I might add, is just not done in today's society. No matter how well wishing Moore may have been, the public has a way of maintaining fairness. The Bill of Rights clearly forbids such religious monuments with the words . . . wait! Nowhere in the Bill of Rights does it directly deny the federal government from performing such actions. However, a later added Establishment Clause prohibits the government from preferentially sponsoring one religion over another. So, obviously the lines become blurred when it comes to the actually lawfulness of Chief Justice Moore's actions. That to me however, is not really the point. He may be lawfully right, he may be wrong, but the public majority, as well as other justices, will not let such a monument stand.

Joanna Rogers

Where do we draw the line?

This is the question many politicians across the country are asking themselves this month as the case of Chief Justice Moore is called to national attention.

The court order to pull the ten commandments out of Alabama's courthouse came after Justice Moore had them the 5,300 pound monument when he failed to gain permission from other state justices in the courthouse.

I find myself torn in the middle of this situation. It is imperative to our country that government and religion is not intertwined. However, where exactly do we draw the line? Will there be court orders to paint of the historic portraits of Moses and the Ten Commandments on the walls of the Supreme Court? Will we cover the image of Jesus that is on the walls of the old state capital building in Pennsylvania?

I believe in the importance of the Ten Commandments because of the strong morals it represents. However, it is religious and may not belong in a government building.

Commandments in state Courthouse?

The editorial board shares thoughts and opinions about the national controversy regarding the Alabama court decision

Melanie Kuehnert

The issue of public display of religion has been prevalent for years. Everyday there is someone who has a problem with another person's beliefs.

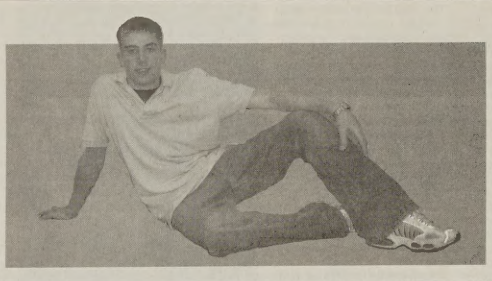
I see nothing wrong with the posting of the Commandments as long as other religions are not forbidden to post something of value to them. For instance, if the Christians are allowed to post the Commandments then the Five Pillars of Islam should also be included.

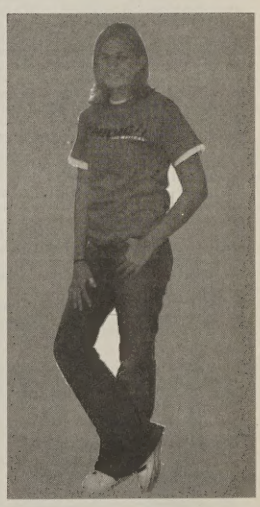
I believe I am strong in my faith and know what I believe. I see and understand why people may not want a Christian symbol in public view, especially if they are not Christian. But honestly, what is it hurting? For those who don't believe in the Ten Commandments-just don't read them. Or ask the government to post a religious symbol of yours.

Just as the Ten Commandments are a strength for the Christians, public viewing of a religious belief should be a way for each individual person to grow in their own faith.

Josh Zurawski

Constitutionally speaking, the Ten Commandments cannot be placed in any government building. The government cannot promote any one religion, and the posting of the Ten Commandments would certainly be promoting Christianity. Since the Constitution is the highest law in the land, every state, including Alabama, must obey the laws and rights stated in it. The governor can post the Ten Commandments ten times over on his own property, but since the courthouse was paid for by tax payer's dollars, he cannot place them even once. While most of the Commandments are morale codes that could apply to anyone and any religion, the first three clearly pertain to Christianity.





Mary Rozman

The posting of the Ten Commandments in Alabama Chief Justice Roy Moore's Alabama courtroom has spurred a national controversy. Is it legal, according to the First Amendment, to post the Ten Commandments?

Personally, I feel torn on this issue. I am a religious person and attend church on a weekly basis. I would not be bothered by the Ten Commandments being posted in every courtroom. The Ten Commandments are honored by all sects of Christianity and the Jewish community as well.

To me, it has always seemed like the Ten Commandments are universal moral codes, with the exception of the first three Commandments. They are more like common courtesies. "Thou shall not kill," or "Thou shall not steal," are acts that all would agree are wrong and should not be done.

On the other hand, our government, through the First Amendment, clearly supports separation of church and state. The First Amendment states, "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof..." As a judge, Moore acts an agent of the government and should avoid preference of a religion.

I can see both sides of the fence on this issue. Our country was founded upon Christian ethic. Our national currency has "In God We Trust" written on it. However, the Constitution guarantees the separation of church and state. Placing the Ten Commandments in a government institution infringes on the First Amendment.

The Editorial Review

Students may notice a glaring omission from their school transcript this year-namely their class rank. For those in the bottom half of their class this is beneficial. Many colleges look only at class rank and grade point average to determine admission. However, those who are in the top half of their class, that is those who are conscientious about their grades, will only be able to see their class rank upon request. Some might say that this discourages those who or may have maintained their grade point average. How does this affect the average student? Well it all depends on the rank of the individual students.

Editorial Board Vote: 5 For, 1 Against

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The Spartana is a monthly production of the Journalism 3/4 class at Homestead High School. Its purpose is to educate, enlighten, and entertain. *The Spartana* has and may continue to operate as a limited open forum for the free exchange of ideas.

Profanity may appear in *the Spartana* with the approval of the adviser, but only in cases of direct quotations or if it is necessary for clarity. Material which is libelous or obscene and could cause substantial and material disruption, as defined by the Supreme Court, will not be printed.

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Staff members of *the Spartana* support the First Amendment rights and oppose censorship in any form. The content of the paper is determined by the student staff. In cases of potentially controversial material the editorial board will meet to decide the content of the newspaper. Students will be assisted by the adviser in areas of professional ethics and legalities.

the Bleacher Bum

A sports fan's perspective on athletics around the nation

Tim Clark
Writer

Go back to a time when there were two superpowers in the world, the United States and the Soviet Union. Go back to a time when there was the threat of war with the Soviets, as the Cold War loomed overhead. Go back to a time when Iranian terrorists took a number of Americans hostage for more than 100 days. Go back to a time when the citizens of the United States had nothing to really feel joyous about, as their country was in dire turmoil. Go back to a time that was 1980. America was in need of a miracle. Do you believe in miracles?

The 1980 Olympic Winter games were held in Lake Placid, New York. The U.S. Olympic hockey team hadn't won the gold since 1960, and no one believed that they could repeat what they had accomplished 20 years earlier. The Soviets came in as the favorite, having won the gold medal in Olympic hockey every year since 1964. Do you believe in miracles?

Enter Herb Brooks. Brooks, who was the last player cut from the 1960 Olympic team, is thought of by many as the most successful college hockey coach in NCAA history. He had been coaching at the University of Minnesota for ten years when he got the call to come coach the 1980 U.S. Olympic hockey team. Brooks hand picked his team, mostly of college stars, from Minnesota, Boston, and Wisconsin. Do you believe in miracles?

The Americans came into the 1980 Olympics ranked seventh out of twelve participating hockey teams from around the globe. The team, despite its youth and inexperience, was able to advance to the medal round with a record of four wins, no losses, and one tie. The stage was then set for what would become the biggest sports upset in U.S. history. Do you believe in miracles?

When the Americans entered their game against the Soviets, they were given little hope of even making a game out of it. After all, the Soviets destroyed them in a pre-Olympic game 10-3.

Before the game Herb Brooks said to his team, "You're meant to be here. This moment is yours. You're meant to be here at this time."

With those words, the American team took the ice in a quest to make a believer out of the world. Do you believe in miracles?

The Americans fell behind early 2-1, but were able to score with just one second left in the first period to tie the game at 2. The Soviets scored later in the second period and took a 3-2 lead going into the final period. The Americans then scored early in the third to tie the game at 3 all. Finally, halfway through the third period, the Americans' chance at the lead was upon them. The team's captain, Mike Eruzione, snapped a wrist shot over the Soviet goalie and into the net giving the Americans their first lead over the Soviets in the game. For the rest of the game, American goalie Jim Craig, who led the Americans through most of the Olympics, blocked the remaining shots, giving the team high emotions going into the final minutes. As the final seconds ticked down broadcaster Al Michaels had the final call of the game for the ages, "Eleven seconds, you got ten seconds, the countdown going on right now. Morrow up to Silk. Five seconds left in the game. Do you believe in miracles? Yes!"

The final buzzer sounded, and the rink at Lake Placid exploded with emotion. The Americans, in a David versus Goliath match, beat the Soviets on United States soil, 4-3 in a miraculous performance that defied all odds. As the players celebrated down in their end of the rink, Herb Brooks left the bench and headed for the dressing room, leaving his team to bask in the limelight. Do you believe in miracles?

With the win over the Soviets the Americans had one last hurdle to overcome in order to capture Olympic gold: beat Finland. The Americans fell behind early again 2-1 going into the third period against Finland. But their will to win seemed stronger than that of the Finland team, and they were able to tie the game early in the third period. Shortly after that, center Rob McClanahan put the Americans ahead for good scoring their 3rd goal of the game. They would later add an insurance goal and beat Finland 4-2 for the Olympic gold medal. After the game, the arena was flooded with the chants of "U.S.A.!" "U.S.A.!" The timeless picture of Jim Craig wrapped in the American flag displayed what America felt that day: emotion and pride. Brooks, once again, left the bench for the dressing room, leaving his team to their glory. Do you believe in miracles?

Ironically, very few players from that unforgettable team went on to find much success in the professional level. Brooks, himself, had limited success in the NHL, earning only a .497 winning percentage. But none of that mattered to any of them. They all had become a part of American history. Do you believe in miracles?

Brooks's NHL History

Year	Team	Total Games	Win %
1981-82	NY Rangers	80	0.575
1982-83	NY Rangers	80	0.500
1983-84	NY Rangers	80	0.581
1987-88	MN North Stars	80	0.319
1992-93	NJ Devils	84	0.518

Sadly, on Monday, August 11, 2003, Brooks died in a one-car accident. It is believed that Brooks fell asleep and consequently his mini-van ran off the road and flipped over in a rural Minnesota field, ejecting Brooks. Brooks was not wearing his seat belt.

Yet, nearly 23 years after that "miracle," he is still remembered as the man who changed the outlook of many in the strained time of the 1980's. He transformed a group of college players into one of the greatest Olympic hockey teams this country has ever seen. It seemed to be the impossible. However, the will of a few strengthened the pride of a nation. Which right there makes you start to wonder if everything is really what it seems in the real world. Maybe all you need is a miracle. Maybe, just maybe, a miracle is all it takes. It's all America needed. And so with that said, I'll ask you one final time, do you believe in miracles?

Herb Brooks
1937-2003

Tim Clark is a sophomore and works as a writer for the Spartana. *The views and opinions expressed in this column do not necessarily represent those of* the Spartana *or of its staff.*

Bad service at local restaurants taint image from teens perspective

Evan Childers
Writer

Good food and atmosphere are always tainted by bad service. Being forced to wait for long periods of time, receiving the wrong order, and being subjected to rudeness is always a source of irritation when dining out.

And doesn't it seem that whenever you and your friends eat out, you get the worst of the service?

To be frank, the level of attention restaurants give teenagers is usually inferior. You wait for service, are patient and polite; but it does not matter, because sometimes you are stereotyped even before you sit down.

In all honesty there are cases where young adults deserve disrespect at restaurants. But disrespect should not begin before you walk in the door. Disrespect, like respect, should be given based on one's actions. No one should prevent an individual from getting the same attention as everyone else.

In these past few days I have seen cases of this stereotypical treatment many times over. Recently, I went to Buckets Bar and Grill with the Spartana food review team, and the entire group suffered from lousy service. Not only did the server ignore us for long periods of time; neglecting to get orders and refill drinks, but he also managed to severely screw up many of the meals. He doubled the size of one student's basket of wings, and then expected him to pay for the mistake. He tried to bring me a meal I didn't order, an afterwards tried to give me the bill. In fact, he had several ghost orders, belonging to no one in the group, which he blamed the group for ordering. He was rude and spent most of the time away from the tables, while we sat and waited for orders that were ultimately incorrect, and drinks that might have taken two minutes to prepare.

It is true that some teenagers can be rowdy and loud and particularly annoying when together. You can expect this. But we were in a sports bar, not a fine French restaurant with a headwaiter and wine lists. The servers are dressed as referees. There are projection screen TV's, a bar, pool tables, neon signs and a wide selection of posters depicting the merits of bikinis and alcohol. In such an atmosphere, you can not expect everyone to sit down and politely discuss the qualities of community service.

"If the restaurants and grills we all love would treat us with any respect, I bet they would have far fewer problems with disruptive, bill-ditching young men."

The next day, in order to watch a game, many of us returned to Buckets. Upon arrival, we weren't allowed to sit in the poolroom, the room we always sit in, because we weren't 21. I have been to Buckets dozens of times, and never has there been an age limitation on that room.

So tomorrow nothing will change, we will hate the restaurant, and they will hate us, and we will still get terrible service. Nothing will be solved.

I am not saying you should walk out when you do not receive good service, or steal glasses, or bend the silverware into some odd form of modern art. But I will say that if the students received the service that they, as customers, are entitled to, then there would not be an issue to fight over.

It is also true that some teenagers will unjustly cause problems in restaurants. But you cannot judge the entire demographic for the actions of a few.

All of us, despite our various conduct, have a good sense of fair play. We will treat the restaurant fairly, if it treats us fairly. This is a very simple concept, one that should not elude servers. You get a bad customer sometimes, and he or she isn't always 16. You do not proceed to blame everyone else for that customer. If the restaurants and grills we all love would treat us with any respect, I bet they would have far fewer problems with disruptive, bill-ditching young men. Buckets would find a good class of customers in today's teenagers, if they show us the one thing all good customers deserve. Respect.

Evan Childers is a junior and works as a writer for the Spartana. *The views and opinions expressed in this editorial do not necessarily represent those of* the Spartana *or of its staff.*

Class Rank to be Withheld from Transcripts

Christy Landrigan
Designer

It was during the last few days of summer that one of my friends brought me to the crushing realization that school was about to start. One simple sentence could not have killed my enthusiastic ignorance of summer's looming end more effectively. "Hey, did you know Homestead isn't publishing class rank?"

Enter heart break. The memories of the dog-eat-dog world of ALPHA blockdom came flooding back.

I haven't always been a blockhead (as we affectionately call each other in the Actualized Learning Potential Through Heightened Awareness program, a nickname derived from the two period combined history and literature class taken freshman and sophomore years). I moved to Southwest Allen from Saint Therese Catholic School in a not-so-distant little place called Waynedale. The eccentric and eager little sixth grade girl that was once me tittered and giggled along with others in a two period class at Summit Middle School. They were the sweetest people I had been in contact with in the six years I attended private school. I loved them, and couldn't wait for the six months to pass when our new house would really be ours and I'd start seventh grade at Summit.

Two years later, after I tested into the freshman block class, I realized what ALPHA was all about. Not only had many of them been in classes together since first grade, they were like a band of brothers and sisters. They tease, chastise, bully, and show affection for one another. What caught my attention the most, though, was the intensity of the competition.

Before freshman year, I thought I was smart. Then I came to the unsettling realization that there really were other people--a lot of them--who were smarter than me. I don't know how much I honestly put into the class, but compared to preceding years of education, it felt like a gargantuan amount of work. And my grade was not by any means soaring above the rest of the class's. Not even close.

Almost any one who knows me will tell you that I'm not one who finishes anything on the same day I start. I like to get a new perspective by taking a break and coming back to it later. (Some would label this procrastination.) This habit, undoubtedly, has hurt me and my grades during my first two years of high school. But now I write for those who take challenging courses and still maintain a high class rank.

I talked to guidance counselor Diane Rice to confirm or dissipate what I heard over the summer from my friend. My main concern was that possibly they would not allow students to request their class rank to be published on their transcript which is sent to college admissions offices. This could be very disappointing to students who rank in the top thirty of their class. That takes hard work, and to not be given credit for it would be an insult. She confirmed the rumor that class rank is not currently being published and, thankfully, dissipated my concern. Students may currently request for their class rank to be published.

Indiana University has an admissions policy that to some, seems to punish students who take upper level courses but cannot attain a rank in the upper fifty percent of their class. The Indiana University Admissions web site states directly, "Class rank is an important consideration. Indiana residents need to rank in the upper half of their class."

"Class rank is an important consideration.. Indiana residents need to rank in the upper half of their class."

-Indiana University Admissions Website

Rice told me about one female student with a grade point average of 7.9. That is slightly below a B average. The student, we'll call her Jane for the sake of clarity, applied, but because she was in the 51st percentile of her class was rejected before her SAT scores ever reached Admissions. Jane was, however, accepted at Purdue.

I also talked to guidance counselor Sally Tinkel. She told me that Principal Dianne Moake has not yet had time during Parent Club meetings to bring up the subject, and it may be that class rank is only withheld from the Indiana University admissions office. Much of this is still in the works, she told me, and it may be premature to release any information regarding the class rank situation at Homestead.

I feel very strongly about the need to reward hard-working students. While I can see that (the lower) fifty percent of students could possibly benefit from any policy blocking class rank from being published, I feel that a democratic approach is not necessarily the best in this situation. America is about hard work, and the rewards that come with it. It would not only be wrong but unpatriotic to take the side of the less motivated and go against students with real drive to succeed. A 7.9 GPA is not a difficult one to acquire. While I sympathize for "Jane," I feel that the need for students to realize the result of their actions early in life. Hard work yields results, procrastination yields none. At best, procrastination cuts off opportunities. This is how the real world works.

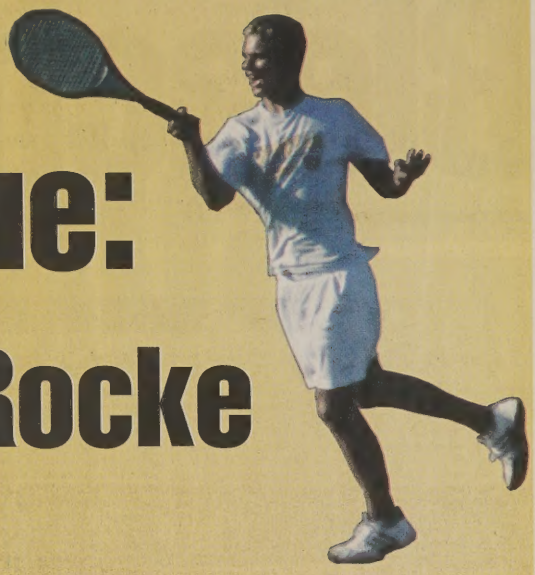
Indiana University has erred by making class rank such a large factor in the admissions process, but Homestead would commit an even greater one by ignoring class rank. In discussing the topic shortly with both Mrs. Rice and Mrs. Tinkel, I know the students of Homestead are in good hands.

Christy Landrigan is a junior and works as a designer for the Spartana. *The views and opinions expressed in this editorial do not necessarily represent those of* the Spartana *or of its staff.*

the Spartana
EMINECE

(em'ə-nəs) n. a person of high station or great achievements

Player of the Issue: Sam Rocke



"Sam Rocke is a great friend and leader. He's always looking out for the underclassmen and is a great example with his hard work ethic and team spirit."
Eric Brown (12)

"Sam Rocke is a natural athlete and team leader. He is one of three senior co-captains. As our number one singles player for the third consecutive year, he is poised for an outstanding season."
Jim Clark - head coach

photos/ jack rozman

Season Stats

Date	Opponent(s)	Match Result
9/4	Tyler Moore, (Dekalb)	(Win) 7-6, 6-3, 6-2
9/6	John Emhardt, (Lawrence Central)	(Win) 0-6, 6-3, 10-5
9/6	Jonathan Batuello, (South Side)	(Win) 0-0, 0-0
9/6	Blain Keller, (Delta)	(Win) 6-3, 6-0
9/9	David Manger, (East Noble)	(Win) 6-3, 6-1
9/11	Tim Buchmeier, (New Haven)	(Win) 6-1, 6-2

"He works really hard and is very dedicated." Tom Landrigan (12)

THE SPARTANA
ENTERTAINMENT
September 19, 2003 Contact the Sports and Views editor atTheSpartana@hotmail.com

Decades of Cars

Labor Day weekend traditionally brings the Auburn Cord Duesenberg Festival

joanna rogers
editor-in-chief

The explosive calls of an auctioneer sound in the background and the excitement grows in the onlookers as a stunning Rolls Royce is pulled onto the aution block. Motions are made and auctioneers talk like wildfire. In a matter of seconds, the car is pulled off the stand and driven out the door while one excited person in the crowd hurriedly follows to see his new vehicle. This fast paced sale of cars is not the typical method of selling a motor vehicle. In fact, it is the annual Labor Day auction in Auburn.

This elite auction was not always so large. Beginning in 1956 a group of men decided to hold a reunion in order to meet up with old friends and show off the cars they had collected over the years. Most of these cars consisted of Auburns, which were made in the small town until the Auburn Automobile Company closed their doors, leaving many people unemployed. Other cars at the first reunion consisted of Cords and Duesenbergs.

The group of men continued to meet every year on Labor Day weekend and as they did others followed. Car owners from all over would bring their cars to Auburn and soon started showing them in town. Shop owners, who were still disgruntled by the close of the automobile company, decided to take action against those showing their cars. Shops were shutdown as well as restaurants in an attempt to discourage sightseers.

However, the business owner's attempts failed and today over 150,000 people flock to the car show each year. These people travel from all over the country to buy, sell, or just enjoy the festivities.

Circa 1931 Cadillac

On the block...

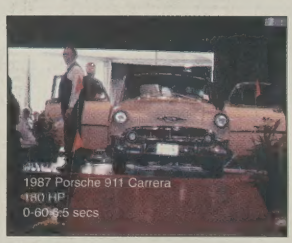
1957 Ford Thunderbird

photos/joannarogers

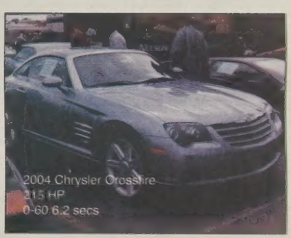
2003 Honda S2000
240 HP

1951 Chevrolet deluxe four door station wagon

1941 Willy's Street Rod Big Block V-8
Final Bid $72,500 worth more than $140,000



1987 Porsche 911 Carrera
180 HP
0-60 6.5 secs



2004 Chrysler Crossfire
215 HP
0-60 6.2 secs

Circa 1931 Cadillac

September 11, 2001

katie corson
designer

September 11th, 2001 means something different to every student and staff member at. It was a day of tragedy, shock, disbelief, panic, and fear. In many ways, it was also a day of firsts.

When American Airlines Flight 11 from Boston, Massachusetts crashed into the north tower of the World Trade Center at 8:45 in the morning, it was the first time many people had ever witnessed a terrorist attack of such magnitude.

The streets of New York were immediately a place of panic, hysteria, and mass confusion. At first, it was believed that the crash was an accident. However, it became clear the crash was not an accident when United Airlines Flight 175, struck the south tower of the Trade Center.

A feeling of panic swept the nation as the news quickly spread across the country. Los Angeles residents who woke up expecting a normal Tuesday morning were greeted with more than just their 7 a.m. news and coffee.

Students and staff at Homestead were also affected by the attacks.

"The most distinct detail [from that day] that I remember, is watching CNN when all the sudden, the first tower just collapsed," Mitchell Haifley (10) said.

At the time of the attacks, President Bush was in Sarasota, Florida talking to a classroom of elementary students. He departed from Sarasota shortly after he was informed of what had happened.

At approximately 9:17 a.m., the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) shut down all airports in the New York area. Twenty minutes later, at 9:40 a.m., all flight operations and air traffic nationwide were suspended for the first time in history.

Many teachers stopped classes for the rest of the day and allowed students to watch the news.

"I remember all of the news casters not being able to cover up their emotions of shock and horror," Anna Menze (10) said. "I also remember seeing the huge line of people at the American Red Cross."

"As a person I think I have more respect for my country and those who served for it."

-Paul Gilbert (10)

"We have had a national tragedy," President Bush said when he addressed the country for the first time at 9:30 that morning. "Two planes have crashed into the World Trade Center in an apparent terrorist attack on our country."

The third attack occurred when American Airlines Flight 77 plunged into the Pentagon in Washington. The attacks finally ended when the last plane, United Airlines Flight 93, crashed in Pennsylvania. It is assumed that the plane was originally to hit the White House. However, due to actions of some of the passengers on board it never made it there.

As 9/11 becomes more a part of the past, it seems some of the those memories begin to fade in our minds, though they are never truly gone.

"We watched the news all day," Haifley said about his experiences on 9/11, "I thought it was a joke at first, but when I saw it on television, I was frightened."

Since the attacks, there have been changes all over the country. Many of these changes have to do with security.

Today, there are more medal detectors than ever, and security is taken much more seriously than it was before 9/11. There is additional security in airports, city buildings, office buildings, amusement parks, and even museums.

"As a person I think I have more respect for my country and those who served for it," Paul Gilbert (10) said. "Also the community and country stopped all the petty arguments and became one."

Many people believe that even though September 11th was definite tragedy, it brought the country together in many ways. For example, the American flag can be found in numerous places, including malls, on cars, and in homes. Bumper stickers that read "I'm heartbroken 4 NY" can still be found in the back window of many cars.

Even though the actual attacks are over, staff and students at Homestead still feel the effects of that day. Like a shock wave whose ripple weakens with time but never is truly gone, 9/11 will always be in the hearts of most Americans.

Flag Memorial

The flag is then folded into the shape of a tri-cornered hat, in honor of the hats worn by colonial soldiers during the war for Independence.

Step 1: To properly fold the Flag, begin by holding it waist-high with another person so that its surface is parallel to the ground.

Step 2: Fold the lower half of the stripe section lengthwise over the field of stars, holding the bottom and top edges securely.

Step 3: Fold the flag again lengthwise with the blue field on the outside.

Step 4: Make a triangular fold by bringing the striped corner of the folded edge to meet the open (top) edge of the flag.

Step 5: Turn the outer (end) point inward, parallel to he open edge, to form a second triangle.

Step 6: The triangular folding is continued until the entire length of the flag is folded in this manner.

Step 7: When the flag is completely folded, only a triangular blue field of stars should be visible.

2c
September 19, 2003

the Spartana
EXHORTATIVE

(ig-zor tə-tiv) adj. intending to encourage, incite, or advise

Spartan Briefs

Concerts

Bill Cosby

Bill Cosby will be performing on Saturday, October 4th at the Clowes Memorial Hall in Indianapolis, IN. The show starts at 6:00 pm and prices for tickets range from $45 to $50 a seat. Parking is free, and tickets are on sale at www.ticketmaster.com

Dave Matthews

The Dave Matthews cover band will be performing on Saturday, September 27th at the Patio Lounge in Indianapolis. The show will start at 10:00 pm and general admission prices will be $8.00. For tickets, go to www.ticketmaster.com.

Indianapolis Jazz Festival

The Indianapolis Jazz Festival will be going on Saturday, September 27th at 1:00 pm in Military park. General admission is $15 and parking is free anywhere around the park. Log on to www.ticketmaster.com to buy tickets.

Jewel

Jewel will be performing on Friday, October 10th at the Murat Theatre in Indianapolis. The show will start at 8:00 pm. Log on to www.ticketmaster.com to buy tickets.

Upcoming Movies

Underworld

Based on Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet", the Capulets and Montagues come alive as vampires and werewolves in this film. The movie is set in modern times, and is based on the war that has been going on between vampires and werewolves for ages. The story becomes a romance when a female vampire, Selene, falls in love with a non-werewolf human, Michael, who is being hunted down by werewolves for his unique blood type that can save their species. This movie is scheduled to open tonight, and is rated R for violence.

Anything Else

"Anything Else" is a story about Jerry Falk, a writer living in New York City who falls in love. Jerry turns to a struggling artist, who tries to help Jerry sort out his love life. "Anything Else" opens tonight and is rated R for sexual content.

The Fighting Temptations

An advertising executive from New York goes back to his hometown in Georgia when his wealthy aunt dies so that he can collect his inheritance. The catch? He must form a successful gospel choir in order to inherit his money. While he is at work with the choir, he befriends a playmate from his childhood, who ends up being the secret to the choir's success. This movie is rated PG-13 and is scheduled to open tonight.

Duplex

In the competitive world of New York City real estate, a couple (Barrymore and Stiller) has a dream of having a converted duplex apartment in the perfect neighborhood. In order the get their perfect apartment, however, they must kill the sweet old lady that is already living there. This movie opens September 26th.

Under the Tuscan Sun

An American lawyer quits her job and travels to Tuscany, Italy where she decides to buy a run-down villa near the village of Cortona. As she rebuilds the home and learns how to live in another country, she begins her new start on life with a new love. This movie is rated PG-13 and opens on September 26th.

Intolerable Cruelty

Starring George Clooney and Catherine Zeta-Jones, "Intolerable Cruelty" will be released in theaters on October 10, 2003. This movie follows the story of a man trying to frame his wife and avoid a legal separation. His wife plots revenge against him by marrying her attorney. "Intolerable Cruelty" is rated PG-13 for sexual content, language and brief violence.

Calendar

9.23 Class Royale competes at the Bluffton Invitational. 9.27 Marching Band Contest. 9.29 Beginning Choir, Concert Choir, Elite Show Choir, Class Royale Show Choir participate in the fall concert at 7:00p.m. in the auditorium. 10.4 Marching Band contest on Saturday evening. 10.6 Music Boosters meeting in the IMC from 6-7p.m.10.11 The Marching Band hosts the Homestead Fall Festival of Bands.

Going behind the scenes

A look into the world of Student Goverment, activities

javed sayed
designer

Although the student body at Homestead participates in the elections of student council, many students do not understand the responsibilities of their elected officials.

Many students just see members of student government walking around the school and picking up the recycling on Thursdays, consequently they think that is all that student government does. The reality is that student government is involved in many aspect of Homestead High School. They help the school by planning activities which benefit the students as well as others in the community.

"The student government is dedicated to the idea that we are elected to represent the student body," junior class president Neel Patel said. "We try our hardest and to the fullest extent to make every event enjoyable and better each succeeding year. We try to incorporate new ideas into the [school]... so that student participation with the school increases. We try to help the community out so that the Homestead student body is renowned for more than its academics and athletics. Even though the general population might not see us doing all this, it is definitely done. We receive lots of criticism and we don't ignore it... We try to learn from it as much as we possibly can. It is because of these things that this organization runs today and will continue to run."

> "We try our hardest and to the fullest extent to make every event enjoyable and better each succeeding year."
> - Neel Patel

One of student government's most popular group of activities is its dances, which occur at various times during the year. From set up to tear down, student government officials work towards making sure that everything runs smoothly and according to plan. "I think student government benefits everyone and makes the school run more smoothly," sophomore class secretary, Chris Miller, said.

In addition to setting up dances, members of student government are responsible for running the back room, where they sell an assortment of candy and MORP t-shirts during lunch.

"Student Government is good for the school and it gives students a chance to practice leadership skills," Derek Thieme (10) said.

The elected officials also spend some time during the year planning charitable events. One of these, Pennies for Patients, is designed to raise money for the Leukemia Society. Student Government places boxes in the classroom where student can drop off excess change. Officials from student government pick up this change later on in the week. Also, student government raises money to give to the Red Cross at various occasions throughout the year .

This year, officials in student government have resolved to be more organized during the year so that they will be able to handle their designated jobs with greater efficiency.

Student government has also decided to commence a committee to help communicate with the student body. The committee would be in charge of seeing how the students are doing throughout the year.

"Student government is a positive influence on the student body at Homestead High School.," Katie Gotchall (10) said.

Currently student government is busy working on the quickly approaching Homecoming Week. During the week, student government committee will be setting up fun activities such as "dress up" days, as well as a plethora of other games. Also, student council will be selling carnation during Homecoming Week. Additionally the coronation of homecoming king and queen will also took place during this special week.

Overall student government is an organization that helps the school and community in many ways. Also, student government helps students develop leadership skills.

photos/caitlin myers

Larry Buchanan (9), freshmen co-president, sells candy in the backroom after lunch. Working in the backroom is one of the many jobs student goverment engages in.

Major Student Government Events

***December 6, 2003**
Semi Formal at the Memorial Coliseum

***January 21, 2004**
Student Government Blood Drive

***January 26-30, 2004**
Snowcoming Week

***March 26, 2004**
MORP

***May 22, 2004**
Junior/Senior Prom

***March 22, 2004**
Junior/Senior Prom

Other Student Government representatives sell candy in the backroom. The profits from the candy sales are used in planning dances and numerous other events.

Surviving the trash compacter

marlee laviola
writer

Each day, hundreds of students walk past the recycling bins marked with the familiar rotating arrows; however, few tend to realize the importance and value of using these bins and recycling.

Just a single can of recycled aluminum can produce enough energy to operate a television for as long as three hours. Additionally, recycling aluminum reduces pollution by 95%.

Sadly, the amount of aluminum thrown away each year is enough to rebuild our commercial air fleet four times.

Recycling one glass container saves enough energy to burn a 100-watt bulb for four hours. It can reduce air pollution by 20% and water pollution by 50%.

Seventeen trees and 7000 gallons of water can be saved by recycling one ton of paper. However, enough paper is thrown away each year to make a 12 foot high wall from New York to California. Each year the U.S. uses enough plastic wrap to cover the state of Texas, and discards enough steel to continuously supply the nations automoblie manufacturers.

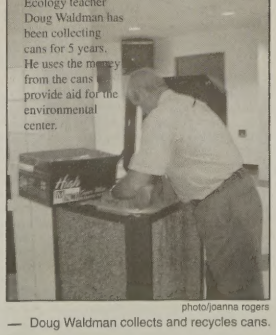
In Fort Wayne, recycling has been made simple by Serve-All incorporated.

"At Serve-All we take everything from cardboard and paper to aluminum and plastics such as detergent bottles," facility manager Richard Mauman said.

Recyclable items at Serve-All go through a fairly simple process all while being free to the public.

"It's really a win-win situation; you save money, resources, and landfill space," Mauman said.

Recycling can help reduce environmental pollution, provide resources, and create a cleaner world for everyone.



Ecology teacher Doug Waldman has been collecting cans for 5 years. He uses the money from the cans to provide aid for the environmental center.

photo/joanna rogers

Doug Waldman collects and recycles cans.

(ĭn-vĭgə-rāt′) v.
To impart strength
or vitality; stimulate

the Spartana
INVIGORATE

3c
September 19, 2003

photo/colin knapp

Car accidents: a crash course

In case of a wreck, follow these steps

ashley butler
writer

Teenagers make up merely seven percent of the driving population, however they are involved in more than 14 percent of car wrecks in the United States, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).

Many teenagers are likely to be in a wreck themselves or a witness to a wreck.

In order to help prevent panic and better aid other drivers, it is important to be aware of basic knowledge concerning wreck protocol.

When a policeman arrives at the scene of an accident, he/she needs many pieces of information including both drivers' names, addresses, phone numbers, and insurance information.

Then a police report is filled that explains damages to the vehicles as well as giving a diagram and narrative of the accident.

In addition to collecting specific information from both drivers, the policeman needs to determine the degree of fault for each driver.

"We determine fault by evidence at the scene," Whitley County Sheriff Chuck Vogely said. "For instance, if there's a stop sign at one street and not the other, or if a driver was left of center."

Witnesses also sometimes help in determining fault at the scene of the accident.

"We use witnesses many times. However they are usually biased and not as helpful because they are generally passengers from the cars involved in the accident," Vogely said.

After the driver at fault has been determined, information has been exchanged, and the policeman in charge has allowed the involved parties to leave the scene of the accident, many details still need to be wrapped up.

First of all, both drivers involved in the accident must contact their respective insurance carriers.

Insurance agents need to know important information regarding the wreck in order for each driver to either collect money from the driver at fault, or reimburse the driver who was not at fault.

"Indiana state law states that a car must be totaled if the damages reach 70 percent of the car's current market value"

- O'Daniel Body Shop employee Bob Flanigan

In order to understand how the insurance process works, drivers must first understand the concept of a deductible.

"You have to meet your deductible before your insurance carrier will pay anything," Insurance Agent Carolyn Meyers said. "A lower deductible means a higher premium, and a higher deductible means a lower premium."

Since insurance costs are extremely high for teenagers, many drivers are on their parents' policy. Often times, students don't realize that even though they have insurance, they may still need to pay close to $1,000 before collecting on their policy. However, once the deductible is paid, insurance covers everything else up to the policy limit.

The next step in the aftermath of a car accident is to contact a body shop if repairs on the vehicle are required.

"Choosing a body shop is always the owner's choice. Many times insurance companies will try to persuade you to go somewhere that is cheaper for their company benefit, but by law it is not their decision," O'Daniel Body Shop employee Bob Flanigan said.

Body shops recommend checking to see if the car has been totaled if damages to the car are severe.

"Indiana state law states that a car must be totaled if the damages reach 70 percent of the car's current market value," Flanigan said

After a driver decides whether or not the car has been totaled, it is advantageous to collect estimates of the repair costs from numerous local auto body shops. If not at fault, it is also necessary to send the estimate information to the other driver's insurance carrier for acceptance and reimbursement.

"The actual industry average for a repair bill is between $1,500 and $2000 before insurance coverage is accounted for," Flanigan said.

Although many wrecks are inevitable, "the easiest way to stay out of trouble is to be a defensive driver," Vogely said. "Watch what other people are doing, stay alert, and don't mess with the radio or cell phone."

STOP Area Bodyshops

O'Daniel
5611 Illinois
Road
435-5410

Indiana
International
Collision
3330 Engle Road
478-1773

Kelley
Automotive
Collision
500 East State
484-5566

A police report is filled out for every reported car accident in Indiana.

photo/colin knapp

A tree fell on this van during a heavy rain storm last August. Now it rests in A1 Automatic junkyard.

photo/colin knapp

Safe cars

Small cars-

*Honda Civic
*VW Jetta
*VW Bug

Mid-sized cars-

*VW Passat
*Chevy Impala
*Dodge Stratus
*Chrysler Sebring

Large cars-

*Volvo 680
*Lincoln Park
*Avenue
*Mercedes S600

Average prices of accident damage:

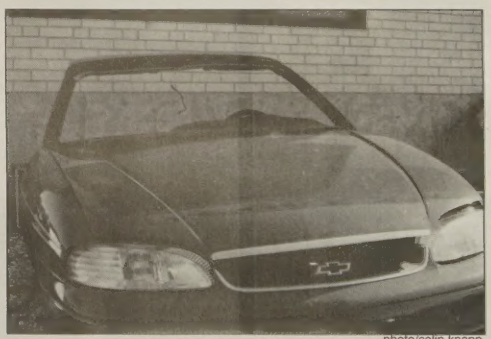
Fender repair - $300-450
Fender replacement - $650-800
Bumper repair - $300-400
Bumper replacement - $600-800
Windshield repair - $50
Windshield replacement - $175-600
Door ding without paint damage - $75
Door ding with paint damage - $330

photo/colin knapp

This van was damaged while sitting motionless on a street, proving that not all damages comes from accidents. All but the front parts of this car were removed or sold individually.

What to do when in a car accident:

* Stop- if you leave the scene you can be charged with hit and run
* Do not panic
* Get away from the car, stand in a place where you are not in danger of getting hit by someone else
* Call the police
* Reasonably assist injured people, do not risk more injury to someone by moving them
* Exchange information with the other drive-name, phone number, address, insurance information (agent name, company name and phone number), make sure they have a valid drivers license
* Even after getting information, do not leave before the police arrive to make a police report
* File the claim with your insurance agent



photo/colin knapp

Accidents Deaths

Passenger Car: 1.9%

LTVs:1.4%

Motorcycles: 15%

Large Trucks: 2.3%

Other Vehicles: 1.4%

Unknown Type: 78%

Information found at caraccidents.com/statistic

My experiences behind the wheel

Spartana *staffer, Melanie Kuehnert, tells of her recent car accident*

melanie kuehnert
entertainment editor

Independence is something I have always taken for granted, until it was stripped from me.

I was involved in a car accident on Homestead Road the week before school started. In result, my car was totaled. It was the first time I had experienced anything of the sort without my parents in the car. Initially, I was overwhelmed with emotion because I felt the responsibility for those in my car, especially my only sister. In the end, no one was hurt severely; whiplash was the only injury.

Because this was the first accident for me, I had no idea what to do. Luckily, I had my cell phone and was able to call my parents as soon as I could. Administrators at the school saw the accident and came out and assisted in calling the police and ambulance. I am thankful for those adults and the paramedics who helped transport the injured passengers to the hospital.

Since my vehicle was totaled, I was forced to go car shopping. My family reasoned with the insurance agent and we were able to get a decent settlement and to purchase a new car.

Before buying the new car I was obviously with out. Those few short weeks left me at a loss. Not only did I feel overly responsible for what happened, but I was forced to rely on others for rides to school and work. I felt as though I was a freshman again. I believe I owe many people gas money. One doesn't appreciate their car until they no longer have it.

My father was forced to car shop at rapid speed because I have such a full life and I need to be able to come and go as I please. We walked car lots, checked the internet, and made calls from the classifieds.

Car shopping was a learning experience because now when I shop for my own vehicle I will know what to look for. Prior to this I had no idea how the number of miles effect the quality of the car. So I guess, my independence was at first taken away but it was increased because I was forced to make my own decisions about the car and insurance.

Hindsight is always 20/20-but I don't know if I would have reacted any differently to the accident. I still would have called my mom first, I still would have stayed by my sister's side, I still would have cried because of the immense sense of guilt. Now I am more appreciative of my car and the ability to drive it.

Click it or ticket

Police enforce the law

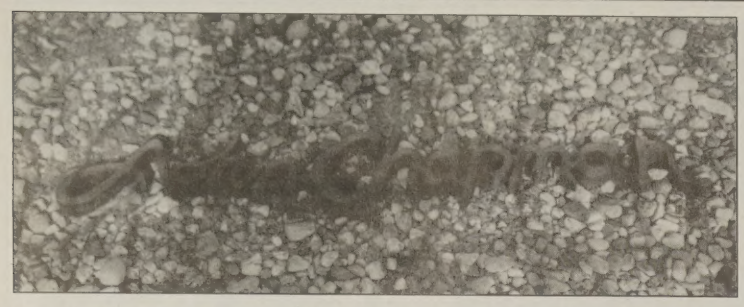
tracy kosmala
writer

More often on Indiana roads drivers are recognizing the "No exceptions. No excuses." campaign. In an attempt to save more lives in Indiana the Governor's Council on Impaired and Dangerous Driving, a division of the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute, has initiated the "click it or ticket" campaign.

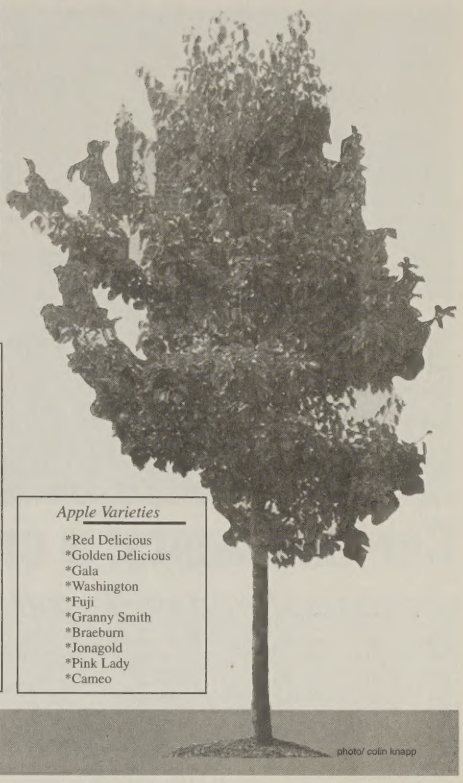
The strategy of this program is to use high visibility enforcement, aggressive public information and education, and intense media coverage. The ultimate goal is to send the message that drivers who violate the Indiana seat belt and child restraint laws will receive a ticket.

The state, county, and municipal law enforcers are administering a zero tolerance policy. They are concerned with saving lives, not writing tickets.

the Spartana
TRAVERSE
(tr ə-vûrs') v. To travel across, over, or through.

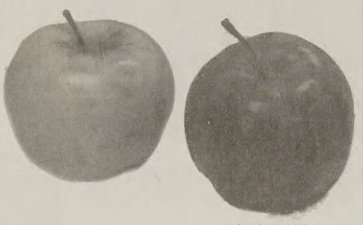


Above: Another site from Johnny Appleseed's gravesite. This particular picture portrays Johnny Appleseed's given name, John Chapman. Chapman was commonly called "Johnny Appleseed" because he planted apple trees throughout his life.



photo/ colin knapp

Recipe Card: Apple Dumpi



photo/suhasini bhargava

Ingredients

1 (16 ounce) can refrigerated flaky biscuit dough
4 apples - peeled, cored and halved
1 cup white sugar
1 cup water
1/2 cup butter, melted
2 teaspoons vanilla extract
1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C).
2. Butter a 7x11 inch baking pan. Separate biscuit dough into 8 pieces. Flatten each piece of dough into a circle. Wrap one biscuit around each apple half and place, seam side down, in pan.
3. In small bowl, combine sugar, water, melted butter and vanilla. Pour mixture over dumplings in pan. Sprinkle cinnamon on top. Bake 35 to 40 minutes, until golden. Serve hot.

source/ allrecipes.com

Apple Varieties

*Red Delicious
*Golden Delicious
*Gala
*Washington
*Fuji
*Granny Smith
*Braeburn
*Jonagold
*Pink Lady
*Cameo

A journey back to the past

Johnny Appleseed festival celebrated in town for 27th year

manasee atre
copy editor

In elementary school, many students read stories and learn about folk heroes such as Pecos Bill, Paul Bunyon, John Henry, Mighty Casey, and Daniel Boone. Most of the tales about folk heroes include exploits that take place in the wide-open spaces of the Old West or the rugged terrain of the eastern mountains. However, one folk hero, Johnny Appleseed, included Fort Wayne in his list of visited-places. Johnny Appleseed's way of life, and the legend surrounding it, will be the subject of Fort Wayne's 29th annual Johnny Appleseed Festival on September 20 and 21.

Johnny Appleseed, whose actual name is John Chapman, was born in Massachusetts in 1774. In the late 1700s, Chapman began collecting apple seeds from cider presses and traveled throughout Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Indiana planting the seeds in forests and fields. Chapman continued cultivating orchards and tending to his apple trees for nearly 40 years until his death on March 10, 1845 in Fort Wayne.

In 1974, the Fort Wayne Parks and Recreation department, Settlers Incorporated, Theta Chapter of the Psi Iota Xi Sorority, and the Lincoln Financial Group created the Johnny Appleseed Festival to commemorate Chapman's legendary life and the sights, sounds, smells, and flavors of the early 1800s. The first gathering for the festival was a one-day event with several thousand visitors. Today, the festival is a two-day event that attracts more than 300,000 people from all over the Midwest.

The Johnny Appleseed Festival will offer many different types of events to give a flavor of the 1800s. For example, the festival will have a Civil War Encampment, where volunteers will perform reenactments of the American Revolution and the Civil War. Also, at the Native American Village, festival-goers can listen to stories told by the Miami Tribe, direct descendents of the Miami Indians who lived in Fort Wayne when Johnny Appleseed was planting apple trees. Furthermore, the festival will house Settler's Pioneer Village and Country, where visitors can join the settlers as they prepare authentic pioneer dishes and watch period craftsmen share the history of their trades.

> "I have be going to the Johnny Appleseed Festival since I was in elementary school. I love all of the crafts, the Native American tents, and of course, the food - especially the ice cream. I can't wait until this year's festival."
>
> -Mallory Vaillancourt (12)

Some prominent historical figures of the 1800s will also be at the festival. Festival visitors can listen to speeches by "Abraham Lincoln" on some of the festival stages, and "Johnny Appleseed" himself will be walking around the festival grounds.

In addition, the festival will have crafts, food, and entertainment that will continue to portray the pioneer-life theme. At the craft booths, festival-goers can buy jewelry, dolls, woodwork, quilts, and other 1800's-inspired handiwork. From the food vendors, visitors can buy traditional pioneer foods such as beef burgers, corn-on-the-cob, and old-fashioned vanilla ice cream. And at the Festival Stage or the Village Folk Stage, visitors can listen to "pioneer music," such as fiddle tunes and fife, drums, and pipes.

Many people who attend the festival have been enjoying its attractions for years.

"I have been going to the Johnny Appleseed Festival since I was in elementary school," Mallory Vaillancourt (12) said. "I love all of the crafts, the Native American tents, and of course, the food - especially the ice cream. I can't wait until this year's festival."

The festival's hours will be 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. tomorrow and 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sunday. Admission is free, and free parking is available on the Indiana/Purdue Fort Wayne (IPFW) campus.

photo/jack rozman

photo/jack rozman

Above: Johnny Appleseed's grave is located in Fort Wayne's Archer Park. Above right: A close-up of Appleseed's grave is pictured. Johnny Appleseed died on March 10, 1845 in Fort Wayne.

Attractions to consider at the festival

- The Childrens Area features pioneer games, crafts, and other entertaining items.
- A Civil War Encampment allows visitors to see a reenactment of the Civil War and American Revolution.
- The Lincoln Financial Group along with the Lincoln Museum is having appearances by Abraham Lincoln.
- Food from the 1800's is present at the festival and is cooked over open fires.
- The Old Time Medicine Show will feature Don Barth and his Americana to the west end of Harry Baals Drive.
- At the Trader's Market, old-time horse sharing will be available. Traders will also share stories about living on the trail.

source/johnnyappleseedfest.com

(ə-măl'gə-māt') v.
to mix so as to make a unified whole; blend

the Spartana

AMALGAMATE

5c

September 19, 2003

The three food amigos embark on a glorious mission to find the best buffalo wing in town

Buckets vs. Crazy Al's

tyler keena
writer

logan braman
designer

josh zurawski
sports & views editor

After timeless debate over which restaurant serves the best buffalo wings in town, we decided to embark on a journey to the area's two premiere wing-serving restaurants, Crazy Al's Buffalo Wings & Ribs and Bucket's Sports Pub, to put the argument to rest. While all of us have previously dined at both restaurants, we decided to get serious and complete our quest to find the best wings in town. We also decided to test their reputations as a great hangout by bringing five others to test the service and atmosphere.

When we entered Crazy Al's Buffalo Wings & Ribs for yet another Wednesday night "all you can eat" buffet of buffalo wings, we were greeted by a full house of wing-lovers just like us. We arrived around 5:30 p.m... and were seated immediately we then proceeded to order the Wednesday usual, "all you can eat" buffalo wings, french fries, and garlic bread for $9.99.

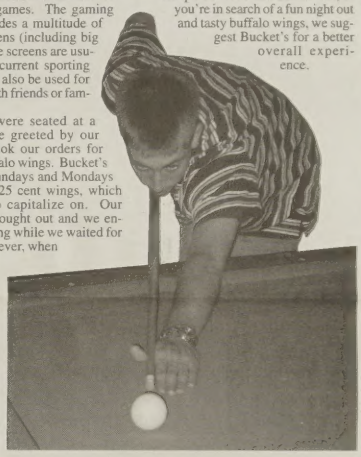
Not long after ordering, we received our basket of fries and garlic bread, which are traditionally brought out first, followed shortly by our wings. These wings were pretty tasty and we quickly devoured them. Thus, reorders (another basket of wings) were necessary. The second round was brought out a short time after reordering and were excellent in quality so they were devoured once more. Then, for those who still had an appetite, more reorders of fries and wings were placed. However, it was approaching 6:30 p.m. and the restaurant was packed to the brim. The servers had a difficult time getting food and drinks in a timely manner. The wings that were reordered took much longer than necessary to arrive at our table and our drinks were not refilled. We were quickly becoming dissatisfied with our service, and we became even more displeased when the bill was brought to the table and 15% gratuity was inappropriately added, leaving the customers without the option of leaving a more appropriate tip. When the manager was confronted, he insisted that we were wrong and merely provided excuses for the poor service instead of apologizing.

Overall, the buffalo wings were excellent at Crazy Al's. However, the service and atmosphere were not up to par. If the service had been faster and the manager had been more respectful, the night would have been much better.

When we walked into Bucket's Sports Pub, we immediately seated ourselves in the game room section of the bar area. This area of the restaurant has many features for the entertainment of the customers, including two pool tables and several different arcade games. The gaming area also includes a multitude of television screens (including big screens). These screens are usually showing current sporting events, but can also be used for trivia games with friends or family.

When we were seated at a table, we were greeted by our server, who took our orders for drinks and buffalo wings. Bucket's specialty on Sundays and Mondays includes their 25 cent wings, which we decided to capitalize on. Our drinks were brought out and we enjoyed the gaming while we waited for our food. However, when our food was brought out, the server didn't bring the correct order - he brought a 20-wing bucket instead of a 10-wing bucket. The server apologized for the mistake and gave us the extra 10 wings with no charge. The wings were fairly good. However, Crazy Al's Buffalo Wings & Ribs are better in our opinion.

After our visit, we decided that the food was good, and the service and atmosphere were excellent. So, if you're in search of a fun night out and tasty buffalo wings, we suggest Bucket's for a better overall experience.



BUCKETS

Service: Although my order was messed up, I was given extra wings for free.

Atmosphere: I love the pool tables and the TV's showing a variety of sports

Food: The food was perfect, I could not have asked for a better meal.

CRAZY AL'S

ZERO

Service: Our table waited and waited for our last reorder and bill, and the situation was handled poorly

Atmosphere: The place gets pretty dull when you're waiting for food or a bill, and TV's are barely visible.

Food: The food was marginal, but not quite as appetizing and filling as Buckets' wings.

—— Top: Josh Zurawski lines up his next pool shot on one of the two pool tables located at Buckets. Both of the pool tables cost seventy-five cents for one game of pool. Left: Tyler Keena takes his shot on the Deluxe Bowl game at Buckets, just one of the many arcade games inside of Buckets. If pool and arcade games are not exactly your favorite, buckets also has several televisions which show a multitude of sports and news programs.

Summer flicks in review: *Uptown Girls, Freddy vs. Jason, S.W.A.T.*

kasey butcher
associate news editor

It's back-to-school time. This sad fact brings school supplies, new clothes, and Hollywood's last chance to hit moviegoers with summer sequels and blockbusters. This season, summer movies' last stand included S.W.A.T., Freddy vs Jason, and Uptown Girls.

S.W.A.T. starring Samuel L. Jackson (Basic) and Colin Farrell (Phone Booth), is the action packed story of an LAPD SWAT (Special Weapons and Tactics) team made up of the freshest, best, and blacklisted members of the force. The group includes a man who sold out his partner (Farrell), a hard as nails female officer (Michelle Rodriguez, Resident Evil), a fast officer with a short temper (LL Cool J), and their leader who doesn't follow protocol (Jackson). The team isn't even expected to make it out of training, but when a criminal who's wanted on almost every continent is arrested in Los Angeles and offers 100 million dollars for his freedom, there is only one team crazy enough to go in.

S.W.A.T. opened at number one and keeps audiences entertained by the fast-paced action and banter between the teammates. This compensates for the movie's lack of creativity. It's a story that has been told a hundred times, but no one ever seems to tire of it. S.W.A.T. is certainly not the best movie I've seen all year, but I give it three out of five stars for its entertainment value.

Freddy vs Jason pairs up two of horror's most timeless death-defying villains. In the movie, Freddy Krueger has been long forgotten, much to his dismay. If no one remembers him, then no one will be afraid of him. He feeds off of adolescent fear and attacks in his victims' dreams. Freddy brings back Jason Voorhees, a vengeful killer who has slain anyone who ever returned to Camp Crystal Lake after his drowning and the camp's closing in 1957. Jason is sent to Elm Street to rekindle fear amongst its young people. With time, Freddy gains enough strength to start killing again, but Jason keeps getting to his victims first. This kind of ticks Freddy off, and when he can't stop Jason, he decides to kill him. Two titans of terror are brought into a battle to the grave. If no one has been able to kill them before, will they be able to kill each other?

I won't give away the ending, but I will say that my money was on Jason. Statistically he is the biggest and most prophetic killer of the 1980's slasher craze. Freddy has killed a mere 30 people compared to Jason's 127. Freddy vs Jason also opened at number one. I think bringing these two back to duke it out was a great idea. I just don't think it was pulled off very effectively. I give it a two out of five for its originality, even if it wasn't executed very well.

I was starting to worry that maybe I didn't like any movies because I was grumpy with the back to school blues. Then I saw Uptown Girls and realized that the previous movies just weren't very good.

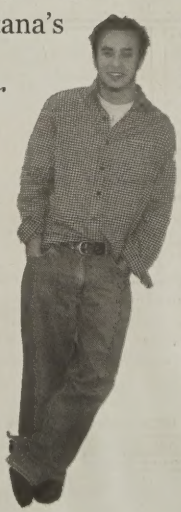
Uptown Girls starring Brittney Murphy (Just Married) and Dakota Fanning (I am Sam) is the story of a rock and roll heiress who is forced to grow up when her lawyer steals her inheritance. She becomes the nanny of an eight year-old girl who must also learn to act her age. The two form a unique bond and teach each other how to trust other people and how to cope with circumstances beyond their control.

Uptown Girls is an incredibly sweet movie. Murphy is adorable, when not a little annoying, and Fanning is truly a talented young actress. I give this movie four out of five for its strong acting and sweet, touching storyline.

Summer has unfortunately come to an end, bringing school in its wake. Let's just hope these movies will be better than Freddy vs Jason and S.W.A.T.

Bruce Springsteen

the Spartana's *business manager Greg Karidas travels to the U.S. Cellular Field to check out "The Boss" in concert*



greg karidas
business manager

In 1984 a fairly well-known singer/songwriter from the small town of Freeport, New Jersey hit the charts big time. That man, later earning the title "The Boss," was Bruce Springsteen. The album Born in the U.S.A. turned Springsteen into an American icon, and gave him the chance to perform in venues larger than those played in by the legendary Rolling Stones.

Then, in his thirties, and now in his fifties Springsteen continues to sell out every stadium he plays in; and U.S.. Cellular Field, home of the Chicago White Sox, was no different. The sold-out crowd enjoyed a Wednesday night concert that lasted more than three hours.

The crowd alone was a great experience. It was amazing. Looking over at my girlfriend, I said "take a look around." Every person in the crowd knew every lyric, every drum beat, and every high note Springsteen and his legendary 'E Street Band' belted out.

Before the concert started, two businessmen who were sitting in front of me were discussing stocks and inventory, and so on, but as soon as the lights dimmed and the camera followed Springsteen onto the stage the mood shifted. Almost instantaneously they turned into the crazy lighthearted teenagers they were in 1984.

The beginning of the concert created a strong sense of anticipation; the lights dimmed, the crowd grew quieter, and the sun disappeared over the horizon just as the band as humble as could be walked onto the stage. The band members came onto the stage two by two: "Mighty" Max Wienberg (drums), Nils Lofgren (guitar), Danny Federici (organ), "Professor" Roy Bittan (piano), "Little" Stevey Van Zandt (guitar), "The 1st lady of love" Patti Scialfa (guitar), Soozie Tyrell (violinist), "The big man" Clarence Clemons (saxophone), and the Boss, himself, Bruce Springsteen.

The three-hour plus show consisted of a great mix of old songs, and the new songs from his new album, The Rising. The opening song was the intense, guitar dominated Adam Raised a Cain from the album, Darkness on the Edge of Town. Springsteen's trademark song, and the E Street anthem Born to Run, and Badlands were also both played, and they proved to be real crowd pleasers. As Max tapped the drum sticks together, and Bruce yelled "one, two" at the beginning of Badlands, one of the two businessmen in front of me captured the emotion of the entire crowd by screaming "yes, yes!" All the hit songs from The Rising album were played, including the title track The Rising, Lonesome Day, Worlds Apart, Mary's Place, My City of Ruins, You're Missing, Empty Sky, Into the Fire, and the cheerful crowd pleaser Waitin' on a Sunny Day.

After his second encore came to an end, the crowd started chanting "Bruce, Bruce," and just as Bruce, Clarence, and Stevie were about to walk off stage they turned around and stood around Bruce's Fender guitar pondering whether to play again or not. Once they seemed to come to a consensus, Bruce would slowly start to pick up his guitar, and the crowd would yell loudly. Then he would shake his head, and say "No, no." After this little game; Springsteen picked up the guitar and went directly into the hit from his Wild, Innocent, and E Street Shuffle album Rosalita. The concert ended around 11:30 P.M. after three different encores, the last ending with the usual Dancing in the Dark.

The majority of Springsteen's albums have received five stars, including The Rising. The amazing strength both lyrically and musically that is offered on these albums, correlates directly with the success and continuation of his live shows.

the Spartana
ADVANTAGEOUS

(ăd'vən-tā'jəs)
adj. affording benefit or gain; useful

Exploring Southern India

The Spartana's *Rohith Iyer, journeys into Tamil Nadu to discover insightful new experiences, cultural diversity and aesthetic beauty*

rohith iyer
assistant copy editor

I have been traveling to India since I was a kid, and for as long as I can remember, my trips have always been enjoyable. I love that I can see my roots and heritage all around me. Usually, I spend my time visiting my family and friends, but during my visit this summer, I saw a completely different side of India that had never struck me before. What I experienced there is something that is hard to express in mere words.

India and its people are more than just what they appear to the eye. One should not stereotype India as a poor and poverty-stricken place, as dramatized by many American television and news media. What many overlook is a culture rich in diversity, unique among any single nation in the world. Even though it has a land area only about a third the size of the United States, eighteen major languages and more than 1,000 minor languages and dialects are spoken across the nation. Seeing Hindus, Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Buddhists, and Jains working and living amongst one another is not uncommon.

My parents were born and raised in the southern metropolis of Chennai, the fourth largest city in India. The population of the city is slightly more than that of Chicago, and it is always bustling with people and activity. Naturally, I spend a good deal of all my trips to India there, and did so again this year. In this particular trip, Chennai was the city I traveled to and from when I visited surrounding places.

After arriving in Chennai, I set off to visit the town of Yercaud, a small hill city nestled in the Eastern Ghats Mountain Range in the southern Indian state of Tamil Nadu. Although visited by many across the state of Tamil Nadu, few are aware of Yercaud and its beauty. I was awestruck by the breathtaking views I saw, and at the same time disappointed that the area was not that well-known.

Intrigued by the lifestyle of the people of Yercaud, I decided that after visiting the tourist attractions, I would also walk through the interior parts of the town of Yercaud. In this small town of approximately 35,000 people, I saw unimaginable diversity. In the main road of the town stood a Catholic Church opposite to a Hindu Temple. A few feet down the road stood a Muslim Mosque. I saw people coming out of the temple and the mosque dressed in common Hindu and Muslim attire, greeting each other and asking about each other's families. All around me I heard my mother tongue of Tamil being spoken in various styles and dialects, all in this little hill city in the mountains. I was dumbfounded by the variety of the people and language of my own state, and how little my exposure was to it until then.

> "In only about 40 miles, I saw these subtle differences among the people and their languages. Such diversity I found unbelievable."
>
> -Rohith Iyer (10)

I went back to Chennai, and took a one-day excursion to a resort about 40 miles south of the city. Called Mammalapuram, the resort town is popular across Tamil Nadu, but is not very well known in other areas. The town is in the northeast of Tamil Nadu, right off of the coast of the Bay of Bengal. The beaches were beautiful and clean, and the water was warm. Apart from its scenic beauty, I could even distinguish a slight difference in the dialect and speaking styles of the townspeople from that of the people of Chennai. In only about 40 miles, I saw these subtle differences among the people and their languages. I found the diversity unbelievable.

After coming back to Chennai and spending a few days there, I left once again for the city of Bangalore, capital of the Indian state of Karnataka. Bangalore is about 200 miles from Chennai, but the people of each city speak two completely different languages. The local language in Bangalore is Kannada, with which I am unfamiliar. However my family was able to communicate with the people in Kannada, and I found that many of the local people knew Tamil as well. It was then that I realized how multilingual the people of India were. In fact, it is not at all uncommon for people living in southern India to be able to speak three to four languages proficiently. This again showed me the diversity of language in India, something that cannot be experienced anywhere else.

Along with housing an electric mix of people and being a hub for tourists, India is emerging as a major political and economic power in the world as well. Many large corporations have chosen Indian cities like Bangalore and Hyderabad as the Southeast Asian headquarters for their businesses. Due to the explosion of software companies and other industries in Bangalore, the city is often referred to as the "Silicon Valley" of India. As I drove through Downtown Bangalore, I was impressed by the new state of the art facilities that have been constructed there. I saw many high-rise buildings that are comparable to skyscrapers in the United States, and they were all flourishing with businesses and activity. Before long, these businesses will be international recognized corporations.

Although I was amazed with what I had already witnessed and encountered up to that point, I had my best experience after arriving back in Chennai.

I had always played classical Indian instruments on my own without formal training, and I was especially fascinated with the tabla, a percussion instrument played with the bare hands. The tabla has two drums that are played in harmony: one that has a bass sound, and another has a high-pitched sound. To my surprise, for the remainder of my stay in Chennai, a famous tabla artist agreed to give me private lessons. He taught me for about three hours every day, and he helped me to progress by leaps and bounds. His knowledge of the instrument was amazing, and his playing style was crisp and perfect. I had never seen such raw musical talent in anyone. Once again, I realized how fortunate I was to be learning the music of my own culture.

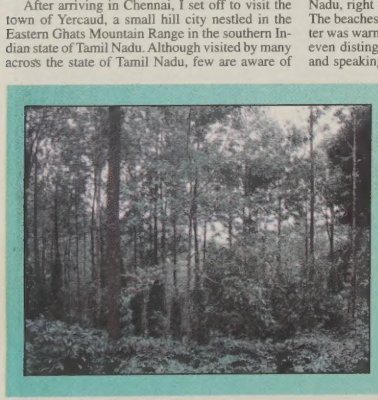
Though I have always enjoyed visiting my homeland and my family, I will never forget this trip to India because it holds a special place in my heart. The experiences I had were invaluable, and they showed me sides of India that I hope will one day be exposed to the rest of the world.

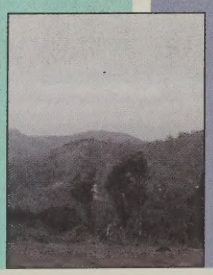
To many, India may be considered a poor and under developed third world country. It may not have the glamour of a rich Western-European country or the US. Its people may lack material wealth, but they are genuine, hard working, and manage live in harmony. As my plane took off from India, a strange sense of sadness overcame me. I felt depressed to be leaving this great country and its wonderful people behind. I can only look forward to next summer, when I will definitely be visiting India again.

India: Quick Facts and Statistics

- *Number of states: 28
- *Number of territories: 7
- *Capital: New Delhi
- *Area: more than 3 million square kilometers
- *Area-wise, India is the 7th largest country in the world
- *Second most populous country in the world
- *More than 1000 dialects and minor languages are spoken
- *India is a member of the Commonwealth of Nations
- *India has two island chains, Andaman and Nicobar Islands
- *India is divided into three major regions: the Himalayas, the Gangetic Plain and peninsular India
- *Major rivers are the Ganges and the Yamuna

Source: Encarta Encyclopedia 2003



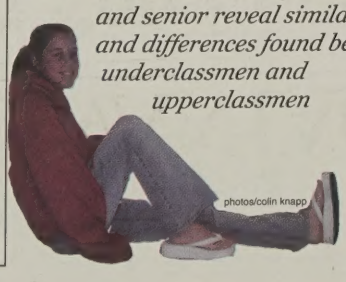


photos/rohith iyer

Far Left: A dense forest near the town of Yercaud in Tamil Nadu is pictured. Many villagers sell jackfruit near the forest, which grows in abundance in the forest. Center: A view of the valley from the town of Yercaud is captured. Far Right: The opposite side of the town of Yercaud overlooks the city of Salem. Salem has a population of about 200,000 people. It is one of Tamil Nadu's larger cities. Top Left: The sun sets on the sandy beaches of Mammalapuram, a resort town 40 miles south of the city of Chennai. The resort is popular spot to watch the sunset.

Thoughts in the hall

Interviews with a freshmen and senior reveal similarities and differences found between underclassmen and upperclassmen



photos/colin knapp

Vanessa Herman (9)

***What was your first impression of Homestead?**
Hey this school is huge! I'm going to get lost!.

***What was your first day of high school like?**
I was always hurrying to classes to make sure I was not late, and I made sure to stay out of the older kids' way. I made a lot of new friends.

***Have you eased into your new surroundings?**
Yeah. Pretty much, but it's still a little weird though compared to Summit.

***Do you think there is a difference between middle school and high school?**
High school is bigger, there are more important projects, and your grades actually count!

***So far what is your opinion on high school?**
I think high school is cool, but I miss being in middle school where your friends are not split up as much.

-complied by thao ngo

Greg Hall (12)

***What was it like for you as a freshman?**
I had to earn respect as a freshman. Anytime I tried to do anything, I always received the response, 'You're a freshman.'

***How has your high school experience been as of now?**
A long four years, but fun.

***What has been a good memory for you these past few years at Homestead?**
I've had a life-changing time in band.

***Do you think being a senior has its privileges?**
Obviously, we get to park closer to the school, there's no one above us, and we can do co-op or higher education.

***Are there any senior activities that you are looking forward to this year?**
Graduation.

-compiled by thao ngo

the SPARTANA

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A great voting debate:

Referendum sparks discussion concerning money and education

photo illustration / josh zurawski

manasee atre
copy editor

Election day is getting closer, as indicated by the numerous campaign posters along the roadsides and the ubiquitous campaign commercials on television. On this November 4, voters will not only be voting for the usual government office candidates. They will also have the opportunity to vote on an issue that affects the Southwest Allen County School System - the school referendum proposal.

The school referendum would give Southwest Allen County Schools additional money to restore and support new academic programs by cutting $1,575,000 from the capital projects fund (which is used for building projects) and transferring it to the referendum fund. The district says that the approval of the referendum will not lead to an increase in property taxes. The exact wording on the voting ballot will read: "For the seven calendar years immediately following the holding of the referendum, shall the school corporation impose a property tax rate that does not exceed ten cents ($0.10) on each one hundred dollars ($100) of assessed valuation, and that is in addition to the school corporation's normal tax rate?"

If approved, the school district will use the money from the referendum for various school and classrooms projects. For example, the district will use the money to reduce class sizes in grades kindergarten through eight, restore the English As A Second Language teacher to full time, restore an additional week to Middle School summer counseling, restore and expand the Homestead Student Resource Program, maintain the number of course offerings in the middle schools and high school, add an additional high school counselor, improve the alignment of curriculum and instruction at Homestead, employ a district-wide data analyst, and increase teacher salaries.

The referendum issue dates back to 1985. At that time, Southwest Allen County Schools voters approved a school tax referendum to raise funds for school programs. Then, in 1992, the Indiana Legislature took control of the referendum money and slowly began to take the money back. By 2000, the school district had to cut more than 1/2 million dollars from its budget. Southwest Allen County Schools went from ranking 15th out of 296 schools in per pupil expenditure in 1992 to 173rd out of 293 schools in per pupil expenditure today. On March 21, 2003, however, former Governor Frank O'Bannon signed into law a new school referendum bill that gives local taxpayers the control to decide whether to approve additional money for local schools. In the new bill, the State cannot access the referendum funds that are approved by taxpayers for local educational purposes.

Although the school district insists that taxes will not go up if the referendum is passed and that the approval of the referendum is a "win, win" situation, some students are not convinced.

"The referendum is made to sound like a one time only move of funds from the building fund to to the referendum fund," Katy Weeks (12) said. "While this is all grand on a one time only basis, the referendum does not limit this exchange. So, when the building fund runs short, taxes will be raised to make up the difference."

Public meetings have been held to gain tax payer's opinions at schools such as Deer Ridge. An additional meeting will be held on October 28 at Homestead.

photo / zach hetrick

Superintendent Brian Smith talks with *Spartana* Associate Editor Mary Rozman about the referendum. Principal Moake calls voters at the districts phon-a-thon to gain support for the referendum.

School receives $50,000 grant to enrich education

rohith iyer
associate copy editor

The United States Department of Education has honored Homestead by awarding the school with $50,000 under the Smaller Learning Communities Program. The grant will be used to develop and implement smaller learning communities within Homestead for the 2005-2006 school year.

The school received the grant from the Department of Education's Office of Vocational and Adult Education. The department awarded over $135 million to 212 schools. The grants will assist local educational agencies in promoting academic achievement.

The first small learning community will be a freshmen academy within Homestead, that will focus on the critical needs of freshmen students. The academy will address issues related to the transition for incoming freshmen, and also synthesize the existing technology courses with core academic courses to further student academic achievement.

In addition, Homestead will develop career majors from which career academies will be formed. Each academy will have a broad-based career theme, an integrated sequence of courses, work-based experiences, and strong partnerships with business and community partners.

Of the three Indiana high schools that received grant money, Homestead was the only school to win the full $50,000 amount. Other Indiana school districts receiving funds were Goshen Community Schools, and Bartholomew Consolidated School Corporation in Columbus, IN.

"I was very excited and pleased about the grant because we have been waiting for two years to receive it," Principal Dianne Moake said. "I was thrilled because this gives us an opportunity to do some future in-depth planning for Homestead High School."

Red ribbon week promotes drug prevention for area teens

larry buchanan
intern writer

Since 1987 schools and organizations across the U.S. have celebrated Red Ribbon Week. Red Ribbon Week, which will begin on October 27th and run through October 31st, is a week that encourages people in the United States to celebrate a drug free life-style. The event is organized by SWAD (Students Working Against Drugs, a division of SADD).

The goal of Red Ribbon Week is clearly stated in the SWAD mission statement: "Our mission is to provide our peers with information about the impact drugs make on present and future lives, including the impact drugs make on the family and friends of a user."

A variety of activities are planned for Red Ribbon Week in order to involve the staff and students. The activities were coordinated by SADD, SWAD, and SWAD leaders Jenny Schepper and Kacie Whitmore.

"SADD members will be tying ribbons on all of the cars on Monday of Red Ribbon Week. At the end of the week, a few cars will be selected that still have the ribbons on them and the owners will get prizes. There will also be a SADD table at lunch all week and if a student is wearing red they can put their name in a drawing for a prize. We will also be handing out "drug free" suckers to those dressing for the occasion." Schepper said.

In addition to activities, each teacher will get a poster to place in his/her room. The posters are not ordinary posters though. They are the actual posters that the police put on a drug house after it is busted.

SADD's primary sponsor, Shawn Harkness, and the SADD cosponsor, Laura Johnson are both looking forward to this event.

"I am excited about all of the activities planned," said Johnson, "We're hoping to get cooperation from all of the staff and the students."

"Hopefully this event will show the solidarity of teachers and students against drugs," Harkness said.

the Spartana
PITHY
(pith´e) adj. concisely meaningful

Spartan Briefs

Parent/Teacher Conferences

Parent/Teacher conferences will take place on October 30. Conferences will be held from 12:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Conferences are not mandatory for all parents. Those who wish to have a meeting with a teacher, but have not yet signed up, can contact them by e-mail or by calling 431-2305.

Spartana News

The Spartana was recently named a Five-Star All-American newspaper by the National Scholastic Press Newspaper Association. The honor is only given to ten percent of high schools that enter the competition. In the second phase of the competition, the Spartana was named a Pacemaker finalist. This award is given to only 40 colleges and high schools across the country. The Spartana staff will receive the award in Washington D.C. in late November.

College Plans

At 7:00 pm on November 5, counselors will be having group meetings with juniors and their parents in order to discuss continuing education after high school. The group meetings give information about the rest of high school and applying for college early in the year so students can plan ahead. Representatives from various colleges will visit Homestead throughout the school year in order to promote their respective schools.

Tutoring

After-school tutoring is currently being offered in the areas of English, Math, Social Studies, and Science. Space is limited and only thirty students are accepted. The sessions take place in room 314/316 on Tuesday and Thursdays from 2:50 to about 3:50. Applications and more information are available in Student Services.

Referendum Update

The vote for the referendum will be taking place November 4. If approved, the referendum, will give back money, to the school system, that was taken away and distributed to other schools. The money was originally taken away from SACS because some felt that SACS didn't need all the money while poorer school needed more.

Spell Bowl

The Spell Bowl team recently competed on October 5. The team took fifth place in their division.

UNICEF Fundrasier

A project sponsored by UNICEF, The United Nations' Children's Fund, is raising money to combat iodine deficiency disorder (IDD). The Key Clubs at Homestead as well as others across the nations are partaking in the fund raiser, a few cents can help prevent a child from having IDD.

California Recall

The new governor for California, a well known actor, Arnold Schwarzenegger, became the second governor in U.S. History to emerge from a recall election. Schwarzenegger has pledged to lower the chronic deficit that was plagued the state of California for sometime. Schwarzenegger has promised to be governor "for the people" and not for special interest groups.

Speech Team

Speech team had its first meeting on Tuesday October, 7. The meeting provided information about upcoming meets, and the different events which student have the choice of competing in. The first meet is set to take place on November 15, at Southside High School.

PSAT Testing

P.S.A.T. Testing took place on October 21. Students who are sophomores or juniors were required to take this test. National Merit Awards are given out based on scores students receive in their junior year.

National Merit Semifinalists

National Merit Semifinalists for the 2004 National Merit Semifinalist program were announced in late September. Students who earned an index of 214 on their P.S.A.T. earned this honor. Winner from Homestead are as follows: Ryan Adams, Manasee Atre, Raymond Keller, Thomas Landrigan, and Michael Slosson.

Calendar

10.27 Grade Cards distributed. 10.30 Parent teacher conferences. 10.31 Half day for students and staff. 11.6 Fall play takes place 11.12 At 7:00 pm athletics awards will be haded out in the auditorium.

In playing position

Season Statistics

*9/6	1st place
*9/13	1st place
*9/20	1st place
*9/27	1st place
*9/27	3rd place
*10/4	Division 1 rating
*10/11	1st place

Spartan Alliance Marching Band prepares for state competition

ashley butler
designer

Although Homestead Marching Band's theme this year is gravity, nothing is falling with regards to scoring.

For many years, Homestead has been one of the top-scoring bands in the state. The band has consistently gone to the state competition and placed in the top four bands for the past few years.

During their regular season this year, the band has had four victories. These victories were at Bluffton, Ben Davis, Concord, Avon, and Snider. The band also placed third at Greenwood on September 27.

Even after their third place finish at Greenwood, band members were not discouraged. The band members have a positive outlook on the rest of the year.

"I don't think that we deserved third at Greenwood," Greg Hall (12) said. "However, I hope it is motivation for us to try harder during the rest of the year."

Homestead hosted the Fall Festival of Bands on October 11. Various bands performed from 9:00 am to 3:30 pm and final awards were given at 3:45 pm. Because Homestead was the host for this competition, they could not compete in it. The band, however, did perform in exhibition at 3:30 while the judges tabulated the scoring for the day.

"We hosted the competition in the afternoon so we would have time to go to the Snider competition later that night," Ray Keller (12) said. "Parents did most of the grunt work, we just basically got dressed after our performance and got on the bus to Snider."

Although the band has had top rankings thus far, other bands that they will meet at the state level have also fared well this season. The competition at state should prove as a great final testing ground for the band.

"The year's going pretty well so far, but we have a lot of work to do if we want to beat Lawrence Central and Avon at state," Hall said.

The state competition this year will be held on October 25 at the RCA Dome, in Indianapolis after the band goes to regionals at Chesterton on the 18th.

"This year's state competition will be the most extreme that it has ever been," Hall said. "There are a few bands that we have had trouble with in the past that will be there. Hopefully we'll place first."

When they are not at competitions around the state, the band is busy at home fundraising as well as practicing around the clock. Every year, Music Boosters supports fundraising for all aspects of the fine arts program at Homestead, Summit, and Woodside by selling discount cards to people in the area. Discount cards cost five dollars and can be used countless times during the course of the year. Stores in the area such as Marco's Pizza, TCBY, Dunkin' Donuts and Espresso Gallery offer a price reduction on items for card-holders.

The band uses the money from fundraising for competition fees as well as the show itself.

Through both hard work and fundraising, the Spartan Alliance Band has had a successful first portion of the season.

photos / zach hetrick

The drumline and colorguard perform during the annual Festival of Bands held on October 11 at Homestead High School. The band placed first at the regional competition on October 17.

Foreign language clubs explore cultural diversity

marlee laviola
writer

Interested in foreign cultures, but not taking a language class? The French, German, and Spanish club are back and are liberal in their memberships, allowing foreign language students as well as students who are not currently taking a language class. Each club consists of exciting, new trips, activities, and fund raisers. Join now and experience a higher learning of a different culture and way of life. Each foreign language club is very liberal in its selection of members. Anyone can join, including students who aren't taking a foreign language.

"Our goal is to increase [students'] understanding of the German language and culture." Homestead German teacher, Mr. Jaeger, said.

The German club meets every week on Wednesday, the French club meets the third week every month, alternating Monday and Thursday, while the Spanish club meets biweekly on Mondays. Each foreign language club meeting varies, but all have a low-key atmosphere and relaxing environment.

"We get together and plan different activities," said Mr. Jaeger. "We're all good friends who share a common interest."

"We do a number of different activities, including the Tour of Debrands, the ballet, movies, the Fort Wayne Fencing Club, and a trip to Chicago for the day." said, homestead French teacher, Mrs. Ferkel.

"We have a snack and discuss business, like what we'll be doing out of school." said, Homestead Spanish teacher Mrs. Hill. "If there is enough interest, we plan on taking a trip to Puerto Rico during spring break."

The foreign language clubs also partake in many different fund raisers throughout the school year.

"We will be selling Quasads, hot chocolate, and bon bons during Foreign Language Week." said Mrs. Ferkel.

"We are selling t-shirts promoting the Spanish Club," said Mrs. Hill, "The cost is ten dollars."

We share this world with many unique cultures which we know so little about, become involved in a foreign language club and educate your mind on a new and interesting subject.

Student honored with Good Citizen Award

rohith iyer
associate copy editor

Dependability, service, leadership, and patriotism: these are just some of the criteria that were used in selecting this year's recipient of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Good Citizen Award at Homestead.

The Mary Penrose Wayne chapter of the Daughter of the American Revolution sponsored the DAR Good Citizen program in the 19 Allen County High Schools. The award recognizes one senior from each high school that shows exemplary qualities in dependability, service, leadership, and patriotism.

Ryan Koepke (12) was Homestead's recipient of the DAR Good Citizen award.

"I was pleasantly surprised to be named the DAR Good Citizen at Homestead," Koepke said. "I am happy to represent Homestead with this great honor."

On October 10, several seniors were called down for a meeting during their seventh period class, unaware that they had been nominated for the award. Any student receiving nominations by a teacher was recognized during the meeting. Afterward, the winner of the award was announced.

Prior to the meeting on October 10, staff members made nominations for possible recipients of the award. A list was formulated, and a ballot with the nominees was sent out to staff members for voting. Each staff member chose one student from the ballot that they felt met the qualities of a good citizen.

Homestead Counselor Beverly Wassouf is Chairperson of the Selection Committee for the DAR Good Citizen Award.

"I think it's very important to bring all the students who were nominated together, not just the winner, " Wassouf said. "The students nominated by teachers represent what a good citizen is, and they should be recognized for their behavior and attitude as a good citizen."

As Homestead's nomination for the DAR Good Citizen award, Koepke will be able to compete with other recipients of the award at their respective schools in Allen County, for the local DAR Good Citizen award honor. This winner will move onto a state competition as well. The local and state competitions are scholarships contests.

In order to compete for the scholarship, Koepke will first complete a personal statement, submit two recommendations of which only once can be from a teacher, and write an essay under a two hour time interval.

The recipients from the 19 Allen County high schools will be honored at a reception on December 8. The local winner of the DAR award will announced at the reception.

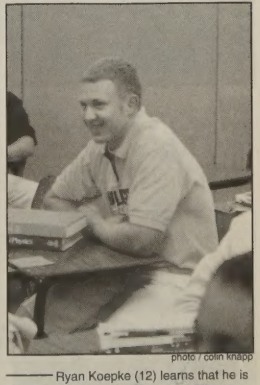


photo / colin knapp

Ryan Koepke (12) learns that he is the recipient of the D.A.R award. Fifteen students were nominated for the award, which was presented on October 10.

the Spartana
APPRISED

(ə-prīz'd) v. to give notice to; inform

Counselors offer college guidance

Juniors and seniors meet with counselors to address college opportunities

sarah kennedy
writer

Life after high school may present some students with an unclear view of the future. The junior and senior counselor meetings, however, are a way for students to gather information on opportunities available after high school. Counselors help students plan for college or job training by setting up a plan for the student to follow to fulfill his or her goals.

The Junior and Senior counselor meetings began with a large group session in September. The counselors gave students general information and talked about how students should go about making an appointment to meet with their counselor.

Then, at the individual counselor meetings, the counselor and students plan out the student's curriculum, count the number of credits the student has obtained, and make sure the student has the classes he or she needs in order to graduate. In addition, counselors may also answer any questions a student might have. Students can set up a meeting with their counselor by making appointments in Student Services. Appointments should be made during a study hall, after school, or during class time.

> "I'm trying to keep my options open, and I hope this information will help me decide where I want to go"
>
> Justin Medert (11)

Additionally, counselors will hold a parent meeting on November 5. The parent meeting will give parents ideas on how to prepare their child for college or on-the-job training. The individual meetings took place during October.

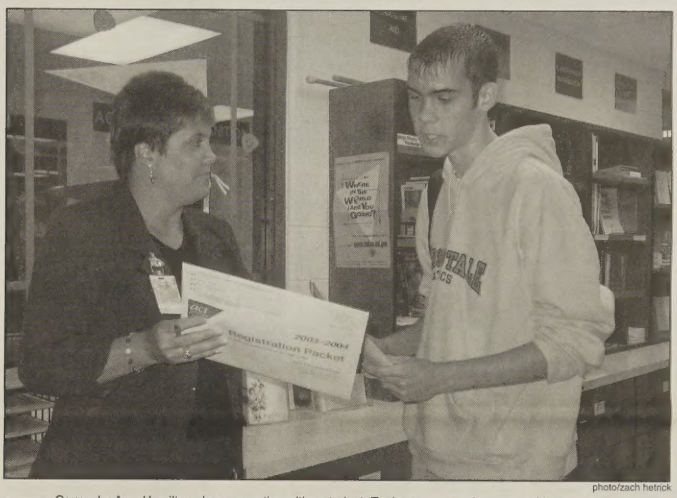
"I don't really know what I want to do after high school," Justin Medert (11) said, "I'm trying to keep my options open, and I hope this information will help me decide where I want to go."

All together, The junior counselor meetings focus on gathering information about college, planning curriculum, and taking college visits. The students receive informational handouts, find out when is too early or too late to research and visit colleges, and discover their options for after high school.

"I believe junior year is the most important for making after-high school decisions," counselor Beverly Wassouf said.

The senior counselor meetings focus more on deciding what the student will do after high school and making it happen. The purpose of the meeting is finishing up where the student is at the moment, and getting the student started with his or her post-secondary plans.

Students have the opportunity to make post-high school plans at counselor meetings. The steps that they take at these meetings should help to plan their futures.



photo/zach hetrick

Counselor Amy Hamilton plans a meeting with a student. Each year, counselors meet with juniors and seniors to discuss college plans and communicate on a personal level.

PSAT at a glance

*PSAT is cosponsored program by the College Board and National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC).

*PSAT/NMSQT stands for Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test

*Test Structure: 2 hours and 10 minutes total, 5 sections: 2 Verbal, 2 Math, and 1 Writing Skills

*Start preparing the summer before your junior year

*Offered only once a year in October

*Taken by all Juniors; some schools administer a practice PSAT to their sophomores

source/ collegeboard.com/princetonreview.edu

PLAN, PSAT tests administered to students on October 21

Seniors engage in college visits, job shadows while underclassmen test

alicia balchelder
intern writer

On October 21, all freshmen, sophomores, and juniors walked into their homeroom class, pencil in hand, and took a test. Before students groaned, they should have realized how important these tests are.

"The purpose of the PSAT is to teach you how to take a long term exam and to introduce you to the type of material on the ACT and SAT," Guidance Counselor Tom Quigley said. "For sophomores, this is strictly a practice test. For 99% of juniors, it is a practice test too, but it is also used as a National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test, which is the biggest scholarship in the United States," Quigley said.

The PSAT included five sections. Sections one through for were twenty-five minutes each and section five was a half an hour.

The PLAN test is a comprehensive assessment designed to provide students and parents with information that can be used to plan and prepare for future academic and career success. It is usually given to sophomores, but Homestead gives the test to freshmen, so that they can see what they may consider doing in the future.

"The PLAN test can help you pick classes in preparation for college," Guidance Counselor Amy Hamilton said, "It tells you what classes you may want to consider for career planning. It also helps students identify what they need help with, like study skills for example."

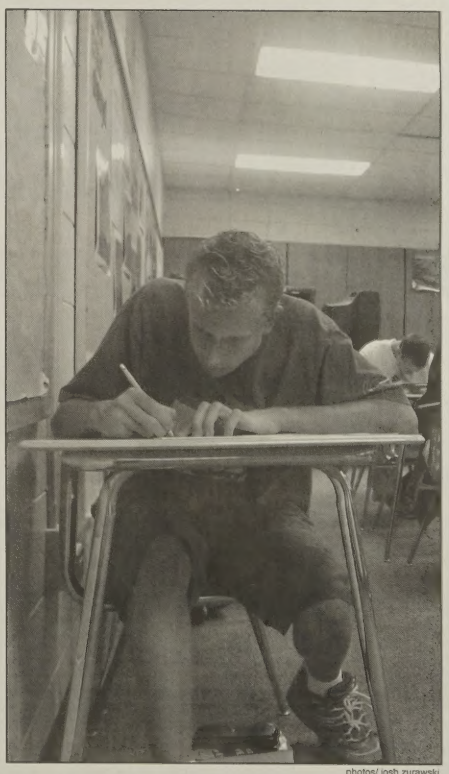
PLAN is set in portions, including a career portion, which assesses a student's interests in order to give him or her some ideas about the kinds of career paths he or she may want to pursue. The second portion tests the student's math, English, reading, and science abilities.

"The career assessments are not set in stone. They give a general idea about what a student may be interested in, and the student may look into something similar. The test results could vary from year to year," Hamilton said.

In order to prepare for both of these tests, a student should get a good night's rest and look through the preparation booklets that are to be handed out during English classes. They should have brought a pencil to their homeroom on October 21 for their test.

Seniors had the morning off for job shadowing or college visitation, if they turned in a permission slip to do so.

"Most of all, students should just do their best," Quigley said.



photos/ josh zurawski

Above: Brendan York (11) diligently takes the PSAT on Tuesday, October 21 in Joe Asher's homeroom. Left: Students engaged in various activities such as playing calculator games, reading and sleeping after finishing individual portions of the PSAT.

Meet the parents

Parent-teacher conferences provide anopportunity for parents to communicate with students and teachers

suhasini bhargava
associate entertainment editor

In an attempt to encourage communication between parents and teachers about individual students' strengths and weaknesses in the classroom, the fall parent/teacher conferences will be held on Thursday, October 30.

Traditionally, parent/teacher conferences are held after the termination of the first nine-weeks grading period of each semester. The fall conferences provide parents with the opportunity to meet their children's teachers and discuss academic work done in the first semester. Then, the spring conferences allow teachers and parents to converse about work done in the second semester.

> "This year we did things a little bit differently. Teacher requested to see students who were perhaps in academic difficulty and then we did a general scheduling."
>
> -Jan Fisher
> Discipline Secretary

"Parent/teacher conferences are one way for teachers and parents to affirm they're on the same page," Spanish teacher Jan King said. "It is also a time where concerns can be expressed and questions can be answered."

Discipline secretary Jan Fisher organized parent/teacher conference schedules for each teacher by mailing parent/teacher conference forms in late September. Parents were urged to return the forms with preferred times for meeting with several teachers. Although the deadline for returning parent/teacher conference forms was October 3, many parents were able to schedule conference times with teachers by contacting them through phone or e-mail.

Although conferences are generally scheduled on a first-come, first-serve basis, this year teachers asked to meet with certain parents.

"It takes a long time, about 30 hours," Fisher said. "This year we did things a little bit differently. Teacher requested to see students who were perhaps in academic difficulty and then we did a general scheduling."

The day of the parent/teacher conference, students will be dismissed at 10:30 a.m. after attending classes during first, second, third and fourth periods. Teachers will commence conferences at noon and continue to meet with parents until 8:00 p.m.

Many students plan on relaxing during the day of the parent/teacher conferences. On Friday, October 31, both students and faculty will be dismissed at 10:30 a.m.

"The half days are relaxing simply because they are a change of pace," Daniel Lambert (11) said. "Rather than having to stay at school for six hours of class, we get out around lunch time and are able to go do something more enjoyable than schoolwork. I will most likely go out to lunch, go to the YMCA to play basketball with friends, or just hang out at someone's house."

In order to allow parent/teacher conferences to run smoothly, members of the Key Club will volunteer throughout the day. They will be working throughout the day, guiding people through the school, and some members will help organize the bake sale. Key Club will be selling several varieties of cookies, cupcakes and brownies during the annual parent/teacher conference Key Club bake sale.

"Key Club has a bake sale to raise money for the actual Key Club fund," Juli Digate (10) said. "The parents and teachers get very hungry during conferences and are willing to donate money. Sometimes we bring food door-to-door to the teachers because they can't get out of their rooms."

With the first nine-weeks ending, parents and teachers plan conferences for fall semester.

the Spartana
INTEGRATE

(in ti-grat) v. To join with something else; unite

Battle for Fort Wayne mayoral office continues

Election preparations are underway as Linda Buskirk challenges incumbent Mayor Graham Richard

kasey butcher
associate news editor

November 4, Election Day, is growing continually closer and bringing with it responsibility for citizens 18 years of age or older. Voting is a constitutional right that allows the people to choose their leaders, but it also demands voters to be educated about the candidates for whom they are voting.

"[Students should vote] because the decisions that lawmakers or elected officials make directly affect an adult's life and, since 18 year olds are considered adults, those decisions are important for the individual," history teacher James Schmidt said. "Try to read all the different sides and listen to a variety of sources and examine the issues not just based off one sound bite."

> "It's called anticipatory socialization which means all of us will eventually have that right to vote so we should be prepared for that"
>
> -James Schmidt

18 year olds, however, are not the only teenagers who should pay attention to elections. Younger students should follow politics in order to be prepared to make sound judgments when they are of the legal age to vote.

"It's called anticipatory socialization which means all of us will eventually have that right to vote so we should be prepared for that," Schmidt said.

This Election Day, Mayor Graham Richard is up for reelection, running against Republican Linda Buskirk. Richard, 56, is a Ft. Wayne native who graduated from Northside High School and furthered his education at Princeton University, receiving a degree in Public and International Affairs. After returning home, Richard became a partner in Ruffolo Richard LLC, a management consulting firm. Later he started Integra Learning Systems, a company that introduced new ways to teach people how to read, and Graham Richard & Associates, a company that aides executives in management, organization and marketing. In 1976, Richard ran for Indiana superintendent of public instruction and was not elected, but from 1974 to 1978 he served as a state senator. Richard was elected mayor in 2000.

Linda Buskirk, 46, attended Ball State University and received a degree in Journalism. Later, she received a Master of Public Affairs degree from IPFW. Buskirk entered the Ft. Wayne community in 1978 as Linda Losch, a news reporter at WOWO 1190 AM radio until 1985. After WOWO, Buskirk served as a local government employee from '85 to 1994 when she became city director of public works until 1999. Buskirk served as Vice president of administration at the University of St. Francis from 2000 to 2002. In 1999, Buskirk won the Republican mayoral primary election, but lost the general election to Richard by 129 votes. Most recently, she won the 2003 Republican mayoral primary and will be on the ballot on November 4.

Students who will be at least 18 years of age by Election Day can register to vote for these candidates in a number of ways. Registration papers are available at the License Bureau, the voter registration building downtown, or at the school through teacher April Moss.

Linda Buskirk

The Spartana: What are the issues in the upcoming mayoral election that affect first time voters as well as students who will be old enough to vote four years from now?

Linda Buskirk: The issue of jobs is the most important issue for all voters, but I believe especially so for young people who will soon be considering where they will be living and working after high school or after getting more education at a university or trade school. Fort Wayne needs to focus and intensify its efforts to create a great business climate here that will help local companies stay and expand, and will help people start new business ventures here. If there are few good-paying jobs in Fort Wayne, our young people will leave for opportunities elsewhere.

I believe young voters should also listen to how the candidates talk about their vision for what Fort Wayne should become. My vision is that Fort Wayne be THE place to be, not some place to leave. Two ideas I have for making that vision come true are: 1) focus attention on making our downtown riverways and historic areas come to life with more entertainment/arts/dining options; 2) Make the greenway system a major community priority in order to develop more trails that connect downtown, neighborhoods, shopping areas, and that promote healthy lifestyles. For more information about my plans for Fort Wayne's future, please visit my web site at www.lindabuskirk.com, and click on "We Can Do Better."

TS: What other elections should young voters pay attention to in order to be politically aware?

LB: This year, the City Council races are important, because Council members are significant representatives of the people. The Fort Wayne City Clerk's race is also important. The Republican challenger, John McGauley, has some great ideas for greatly improving city government's web site. This is a city election year, but next year there will be many other races, including those for school board and state legislators, and these positions have major impacts on education and Indiana's focus on education and jobs.

TS: Many students look forward to graduating from high school and leaving Fort Wayne to go to school and get a job elsewhere. Why would you encourage graduating seniors to return to Fort Wayne after college?

LB: I encourage young people to return to Fort Wayne because this is a wonderful place for opportunity. Fort Wayne is big enough to offer great cultural and recreation, but it is also warm encouraging to those just launching careers or even their own companies. The Northeast Indiana Innovation Center is a great example of an organization put in place to help people get their own technology-based companies off and running. Another great reason to live here is that you can get involved and make a difference in Fort Wayne, both economically and socially. Fort Wayne needs you in order to keep being a great place to live and work. The input, energy and ideas of young people are needed to help drive decisions about downtown, parks and trails, technology and neighborhoods. I want to make sure Fort Wayne is a place where your ideas, involvement and knowledge are welcomed and valued.

photos / jack rozman

Mayoral candidates, Linda Buskirk (Republican) and Richard Graham (Democrat), campaign with road signs and television commericals. Those who are eighteen or older and are registered, can vote on Election Day, November 4.

Graham Richard

The Spartana: What are the issues in the upcoming mayoral election that affect first time voters and students who will be old enough to vote in the next four years?

Graham Richard: The number one issue in the 2003 Mayoral election is the same for first-time voters and experienced voters: jobs. In this time of a national recession, it is important to assure the citizens of Fort Wayne that our community is preparing for a time when the economy begins to grow. It is also important to let residents know that the City, with the aide of the Economic Development Alliance, continues to work with new and existing companies to help them locate and expand in Fort Wayne. As young voters prepare for college or prepare to enter the work force, they need reassurances that their hometown has opportunities for them. The City supports many training and business development efforts to create and retain jobs, especially in the growing areas of technology.

Young voters in Fort Wayne may also be concerned about our City's downtown. I recently joined the County Commissioners in unveiling a Downtown Blueprint to revitalize the heart of our City. This plan will bring more businesses, jobs, housing and entertainment opportunities into the downtown area. This is especially important to young people who may want more urban lifestyle and are always looking for exciting opportunities for evening and weekend entertainment.

TS: What other elections should young voters pay attention to?

GR: All voters need to realize that they are affected more by local election races than by national races. While voter turnout is always higher during a Presidential election year, local races are just as, if not more, important. Local leaders are the ones who pave the streets, repair water mains, build infrastructure, support local businesses and so much more. All of these issues affect your life on a daily basis, whether you realize it or not.

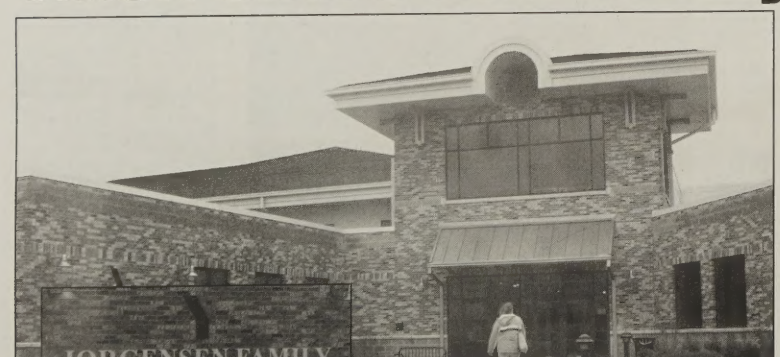
TS: Why would you encourage graduating seniors to return to Fort Wayne after college?

GR: Giving back to the community that raised you is so important. After I graduated from Northside High School, I went to college in Princeton, New Jersey. I came back to Fort Wayne and taught here, started my own businesses and eventually was elected Mayor. I believe in the Fort Wayne community and am thankful for the opportunities I had here growing up and that I still have today. That is why I would encourage graduating seniors to return to Fort Wayne after college. This is a good place to raise a family, Fort Wayne has an affordable cost of living and for those seeking a big-city feel, Indianapolis, Chicago and Detroit are all a short drive away.

As Fort Wayne prepares for an upturn in the national economy, we are investing in our infrastructure and supporting business growth. By the time you and your classmates have graduated from college, I expect opportunities for high-skilled, high-paying jobs to be plentiful in Fort Wayne.

I hope all of the students at Homestead High School will pay attention to this year's elections. Even if you aren't old enough to vote, it is important to know what is happening in your community. As I stated before, local officials make the decisions that affect your lives each and every day.

YMCA offers new facility to members



photo/zach hetrick

The new Jorgensen YMCA offers the community a vast array of services, including a full size pool and sauna.

"My favorite part of the new YMCA is the coffee stand. I also like the fact that it is large and roomy; I think the climbing tower is cool," new YMCA lifeguard Dan Frebel (11) said.

tyler keena
writer

After years of planning, fund raising, and construction, the brand new Jorgensen Family YMCA opened its doors to the public on Wednesday, October 1.

The new, state-of-the-art facility is located on Aboite Center Road in Indian Trails Park. The new building offers many improvements to the previous Jorgensen branch of the YMCA, which was located on Homestead Road.

"I've been looking forward to the new YMCA opening because it has a bigger gym for basketball, a pool, and it will just be a bigger and better facility than the old one," YMCA member Daniel Lambert (11) said. "Most of the rooms at the old 'Y' were a little small and cramped, especially the gym, and the new building will have some much needed extra space."

The new 78,000 square foot building offers many additional facilities along with the double gymnasium and four-lane pool. The building includes a rock-climbing wall, fitness center, indoor running track, steam room, sauna, and a whirlpool. The four-lane pool includes zero-depth entry and family fun components, and the fitness center includes strength equipment, free weights, and cardio equipment.

Memberships to the new Jorgensen Family YMCA are currently available, with student memberships for $18.00 a month, family memberships for $48.00 a month, and adult memberships for $34.50 a month.

The Community Gifts Campaign was a major source of money for construction of the new facility, raising $650,000 in donations.

"I think that [the Jorgensen Family YMCA] is a good addition to the community," Lambert said. "I'm sure it will be a great place to work out and have fun."

DONATIONS

The YMCA is still accepting donations for the payment of the new building. If you would like to make a donation it should be sent to:

Kimberly Pupillo
Director of Development
1020 Barr St.
Fort Wayne, IN 46802

Back Home Again

Local soldiers return to their families for two weeks of rest and relaxation

katie corson
designer

Katie Mahara (10) was finally able to celebrate the return of her brother, Rudy, from Iraq this past weekend.

"I really missed him while he was gone, but I know it was harder on my parents," Katie said.

Rudy, who was graduated from Homestead in 2002, was deployed after Thanksgiving of 2002, and left for Iraq the following January. Saturday, October 18, he finally arrived home for good.

Before leaving for Iraq, Rudy went to many bootcamps to help prepare himself.

"The bootcamp is what really got to me the most," Katie said. "While he was in Iraq, I guess I just got used to him not being at home."

While in Iraq Rudy, experienced a different lifestyle and was able to see first hand events that many people back home only heared on the news.

"Little kids would come up and beg us for candy, but we just couldn't give them any," Rudy said.

He was also able to see where Jessica Lynch was rescued. He received other news through newspapers that were sometimes sent to him or other men he was with.

"I left willingly. I knew it was God's choice," Rudy said. "Now I am just really glad to be home. I am also proud to be an American."

Rudy was not the only soldier coming home, however. A new program, ordered to provide relief and boost morale for forces serving 12-month tours of duty was put into action at the beginning of the month.

Unlike Rudy, these soldiers are only on a short leave though. Available to nearly 130,000 troops, it is the largest home leave program since the Vietnam War.

The leave time will provide troops a break from the dangerous, hot and sometimes primitive conditions experienced in Iraq. It will also give them time to see greatly-missed family, spend some time at home, and enjoy a home-cooked meal.

The announcement of the program brought a lot of joy to many soldiers and their families, although it may bring heartbreak at the end of the two weeks when the troops must say good-bye and return to Iraq. Many men think that two weeks at home is easily worth having to say good-bye at the end though.

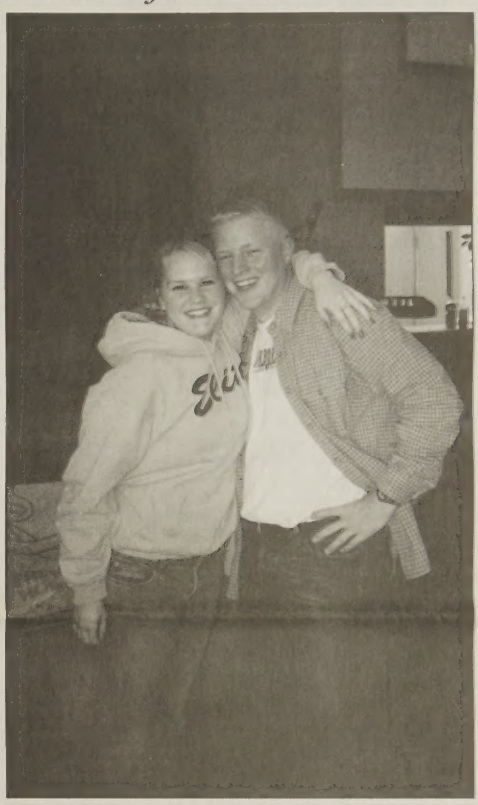
Rudy Mahara makes a speech at the reception held for him. Mahara was deployed after Thanksgiving of 2002.

Quick Numeric Facts

** 220 soldiers from the 293rd Infantry Battalion are home here in Fort Wayne*

** 650 members of the Battalion are wrapping up a year long mission in Iraq*

** November 25th - the day local troops were called to active duty*



Katie Mahara (10) celebrates the return of her brother, Rudy, from active service in Iraq and Kuwait. A reception was held for Mahara, who graduated from Homestead in 2002, on Sunday, October 19 at Sunrise Church. Mahara is one of over 220 local soldiers who are home from Iraq this week.

U.S., U.N. officials work to rebuild government for Iraqi citizens

rohith iyre
associate copy editor

A new United States draft resolution has given the Governing Council of Iraq until December 15 to develop a timetable for elections and a new constitution.

The draft resolution was given to other members of the U.N. Security Council, and the United States will seek a vote on it in the near future.

The draft is the latest version of a resolution seeking international troops and money to help the U.S. led effort to rebuild Iraq. The U.S. leads the effort along with the help of the United Nations. European nations seeking a stronger role for the United Nations in Iraq criticized earlier drafts and wanted a speedier timetable for handing over power to the people of Iraq.

With the deaths of three more U.S. soldiers and an Iraqi civilians increasing the urgency for action, the December 15 deadline was the first time the United States has set a firm date on the resolution. However, it was not clear if the U.S. draft resolution would be enough to overcome the criticisms of opponents of the Iraq war.

France is one of the key anti-war nations among the U.N. Security Council's permanent members. They still reserve their final judgment on the issue.

Because of the US death toll and domestic opposition to the conflict in Iraq, President Bush's administration is anxious to get international backing to relieve the burden of its military operations.

Earlier drafts of the resolution from the administration had not mentioned any timetable for elections or a new constitution, and the deadline was a key addition to new draft. However it was unclear how far the new draft would go toward calming other council members' concerns over the draft.

Like before, the draft calls for the creation of a multinational force to help maintain security in Iraq. But contrary to the previous draft, it says the Security Council will review the force's mission no later than a year after the resolution passes.

The latest draft also addresses the concerns of U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan, who had demanded a lead role for the organization, or a little role at all.

The resolution says the United Nations can play a vital role in Iraq, by providing humanitarian relief and promoting economic reconstruction.

U.S. Ambassador John Negroponte, who holds the council's rotating presidency for October, said the United States would seek a vote on the resolution in the near future.

History teacher Jon Baker has followed the progress of the resolution since its initial draft.

"I think that America should do what it takes to make Iraq a place of safety and success for all people, " Baker said. "We have invested many human lives to this cause, and we must complete the mission successfully."

However in the eyes of Iraq's government, the December 15 deadline is unrealisitic. Iraqi government officials predict that it make take upto a year to develop a new constitution.

The issue of how to set up a constitution has been passed back to the current governing council in Iraq, due to the impracticality of holding elecetions.

As the deadline for the resolution comes closer, it will be important for the United States to get the support of all the United Nations.

The Quoteworthy Quiz: *Match the quotes below to who said them and then to their corresponding news story.*

1 *""The tiger bit his arm, [and] he's hitting the nose of [the] tiger with the microphone, trying to get it off."*

2 *"This is not going to be something where a jury sits down in a jury box with a clean slate, listens to only the admissible evidence and then makes a decision. That's not this case."*

3 *"They could surf the Web and play video games. But we don't know yet how well humans can control these brain signals."*

4 *"The mood in the intensive care unit is one of optimism. Everything has gone, as we've characterized it before, very well, but everybody knows this is not a time to be careless, this is not a time to rest on your laurels."*

About what?

a *Monkeys used to develop mind controlled robotic technology*

b *Roy of Sigfried and Roy mauled by tiger in Las Vegas, Nevada*

c *Trial for sniper suspect begins*

d *Egyptian conjoined twins separated*

Who said it?

a *Dr. James Thomas, director of critical care at Children's Medical Center*

b *Marvin Miller, Virginian criminal defense attorney and expert.*

c *Dr. John Donoghue, Brown University*

d *Denise Previti, witness*

Answers 1) b,d 2) c,b 3) a,c 4) d,b

the Spartana
EXALT

(eg-zolt') v. to glorify, praise, or honor

Serving the Nation

By The Numbers

113 The average summer temperature in Kuwait frequently exceeds 113 degrees.

85 85% of the population in Kuwait is either of the Sunni or Shia Muslim ethnic groups.

02 Kuwait is the world's second largest oil exporter.

13 Kuwait only has thirteen television broadcast stations, including their satellite channels.

source/factmonster.com

Social studies teacher Tim Decker shares experiences about life as a soldier in the Middle East during the second gulf war against Iraq

katie corson
designer

As America fought the War on Terrorism, citizens were affected in many different ways. For Tim Decker, a Coast Guard Lieutenant, the war meant that packing his bags.

"I had an idea last October that I might have to go [to war], but I didn't know when. Then in January things became more serious. The actual call came on February 5," Decker said.

However, reality of having to leave left Tim Decker with mixed emotions.

"I was excited but I was also disappointed," Decker said. "I was looking forward to the adventure and the chance to serve my country, but I had just gotten married a few months before, so that changed things. If I had still been single, I think things would have been different. The hardest thing to leave behind was definitely my new wife."

Before leaving for Kuwait, Decker had to complete additional training, medical checks, and legal work.

After leaving Fort Wayne, Decker and his unit were sent to Sicily, an island off the coast of Italy. While there, the men had large amounts of free time and a bit of a break from any military action.

"While in Sicily we stayed in hotels and got to do some sight-seeing as well, so things weren't too bad," Decker said.

After two months in Sicily, Decker and his unit left for Kuwait. Once there, they were put to work helping Navy units protect a major sea port of Kuwait.

For Decker, the biggest concern was the danger of chemical and biological attacks. 90 percent of the equipment used for war came through the port his unit was protecting. However, no attacks occurred.

Though the unit members were serving time at the port, they had a lot of free time as well. Working about ten hours a day, at rotating times, Decker and the others in his unit had to find activities to do to fill the extra hours.

"My least favorite thing in Kuwait was being bored a lot of the time, and not being able to go anywhere," Decker said. "I lifted weights a lot and did a lot of walking. I liked to walk around our camp in the evening. There were many of us living in close quarters, and the walking gave me some time to myself, which I enjoyed. I also had access to the Internet at work, which was nice."

This free time also gave Decker a chance to get to know those he was serving with, and he enjoyed the camaraderie between himself and the other men and women he served with.

"I missed being at school. When the first day of school started here at Homestead, I remember exactly where I was. I was sitting on the boat dock in the port, and I looked at my watch. I thought about everyone here and I could visualize what people were doing," Decker said.

Decker also mentioned that he enjoyed going out to eat with friends from the unit. Eating out was not exactly like back home, but it was close enough.

"We could wear normal clothes when we went out to eat. There are many restaurants in Kuwait like those at home. There is a Pizza Hut, McDonald's, TGI Fridays, places like that. It's not exactly the same, but it's as close to normal as we could get. For the most part, the meals were pretty good," Decker said.

While in Kuwait, Decker also got a chance to see what life for the typical citizen in Kuwait is like.

"People in Kuwait are very laid back; they never seem to be in a hurry. They don't do physical labor either," Decker said. "One of the things that surprised me about them, was that breakfast is very important to them. They always take time to eat breakfast. If we were at the dock, with a line of boats waiting to be inspected and they weren't done eating breakfast yet, the boats would wait. There could be a line of seven or eight boats, but they would just wait."

Many people also arrive in Kuwait as immigrants from other countries, called Third Country Nationals, or TCN. Two thirds of the population in Kuwait is made up of TCNs who come from other countries to Kuwait for a better life where they can find better jobs.

Decker said it was somewhat of a tiring experience getting to Kuwait, and getting use to life there. It was nothing compared to what it took to get home though.

"We found out in August that we were being assigned a new mission, and based on the requirements of that mission some of us would get to be going home. Then we were told that we may be reassigned and that it was doubtful we could go home. After that, we were told it was decided not to reassign us and 30 of us from the unit would be sent home," Decker said.

It was not yet decided which were the lucky 30 that would be packing their belongings. First, the requirements for the new mission were looked at because they did not want to send home people that would be greatly needed. Next, those who had families, especially young children were considered first. Since Decker had gotten married not long before having to leave for Kuwait, it was decided that he would be allowed to go home.

After the 30 men and women were selected, they requested to have permission to purchase commercial flight tickets, which was granted. On September 5, Decker, along with 29 others from his unit, bought plane tickets to come home.

"Again, I had mixed emotions about leaving Kuwait. I didn't want to leave people behind, but I was also very happy to be coming home," Decker said.

After demobilizing, which included reporting his mission and any significant events that occurred while he was there, and passing extensive health checks, Decker was able to fly home.

"I flew on September 11, of all days. The flight went well though, no problems thankfully," Decker said.

Though he has been able to slip back into his old routine easily, he says some things have changed for him due to his time spent in Kuwait.

"I'm more appreciative of the country now, and I realized that the prosperity in America is taken for granted," Decker said. "It's true that many Americans really do have a great lifestyle."

photos/ courtesy tim decker

A Typical Day at Home

5:45- Decker wakes up
6:45- Decker arrives at school
Prepares for the school day
Eats Breakfast
Watches the news
7:30- Begins day with first period
2:15- Grades papers
3:30- Leaves school
Works on computer
Does yard work
Coaches baseball in the spring

A Typical Day in Kuwait

2:00-4:00 AM- Decker wakes up for ten-hour rotating shift
During shift Decker boards ships and gives security briefings
12:00-2:00 PM- 20-hour "off-time" begins
During his free time he worked out, went to dinner, and watched movies
Decker was restricted to base perimeters unless permission was granted
On off-base locations. Decker was required to carry arms

Upper left: Lieutenant Tim Decker captains a boat in Middle Eastern waters. Lower left: Members of Tim Decker's unit pose for a photo outside a tent. Decker spent his free time socializing with other unit members. Decker is the third person from the left in the top row. Above: Tim Decker pauses for a picture near the coast guard flag. During his ten-hour shift, Decker routinely gave security briefings on ships in Kuwaiti ports. Decker arrived home on September 11, 2003, after being one of the 30 members from his unit selected to go home to their family and friends.

the Spartana
SPORTS & VIEWS
B
October 17, 2003 Contact the Sports and Views editor atTheSpartana@hotmail.com

photos / zach hetrick

Girls cross country chases down competition

caitlin johnston
associate sports editor

Returning with the core of its 2002 team, the Girls Cross Country team is a strong contender for a first place finish at sectionals on October 14. Nearing the end of a successful season, the team anticipates a trip to state this November.

The girls spent their season blowing away area opponents, losing only one meet to Dekalb and placing well in their three Invitationals.

Although they beat Carroll at the tri-meet, the Spartans fell to their biggest competition in the conference. The teams's only loss was to Dekalb on September 16.

"This was the second year in a row that we won the West Noble Invitational, our second of three for the season," Joy Nordin (10) said. "We anticipated some competition from Goshen's team, but we beat them by a good margin."

Homestead proved to be the strongest of 28 teams at the West Noble Invitational, winning first place by a commendable 15 points. The Spartans' number one Varsity runner, Samantha Lee (10), placed fourth overall with a time of 15:42. Senior LeAnn Sarka came in right behind her with a time of 15:50.

"We set the bar pretty high for ourselves [at West Noble]," Coach Sarah Wyss said, "And we were very close to accomplishing our individual goals."

PEAK PERFORMER

SAM LEE (10)

Sam Lee is having an outstanding year so far this season. With finishes of fourth and eighth as well as first team all-confrence honors during the regular season, Lee is beginning the transformation into a bonafide superstar in the high school cross country world.

The win at West Noble followed the girls' second place finish at the Northrop Invitational on November 13, and preceded a third place finish at the Snider Invitational on September 27.

At Snider, Lee finished 8th with a time of 15:58, and Sarka and Nordin aided the Spartans with 12th and 25th place finishes, respectively.

The girls made a respectable showing when they competed in the Notheast Hoosier Conference meet on October 8, coming in second to Dekalb, a loss which was unfortunately predicted by Fort Wayne Newspapers.

"We've come in second at conference for at least two years, so the loss to Dekalb wasn't a surprise, but it was still disappointing because it wasn't even very close. However, I think most of us excelled at the individual level," Nordin said.

Lee finished first team all-conference with a time of 15:33. Sarka and Nordin were once again close behind, and both finished second team all-conference. Sarka had a time of 15:48 and Nordin was ten seconds behind at 15:58. The top time was 14:14, run by Leslee Getz (12) of Dekalb.

"We fell a bit short of our individual goals and that hurts each one of us just a little bit," Wyss said. "But we are a very good team with so much ability."

The intensity of practices has tapered off, as Coach Wyss believes the girls should rest and relax before the more important meets. With this philosophy put into action, the girls anticipate a finish in the top three at sectionals.

"This is one of the fastest teams in Homestead history and has more potential than any team in Homestead history," Wyss

Both sectionals and semi-state are to be held at IPFW's standard 2.5-mile course. Although the course has changed since last year, the girls are not worried, and anticipate a fast course.

"Winning sectionals is not out of the picture." Nordin said. "We're preparing for a tough Concordia team and hoping to beat them, but we're pretty confident that we will advance to regionals."

——— Above: Sam Lee (10) stares down Leslie Getts (12) of DeKalb, whith LeAnn Sarka (12) trialing close behind her, during the NHC conference meet. Below: Joy Nordin (10) finished 11th in the NHC meet. Other top finishers include a 14th place run from Bliss Cook (11). The girls finished second overall to DeKalb in the meet. ———

Spartan football makes a midseason change, brings record to 6-3

josh zurawski
sports and views editor

After starting the seasonal on a marginal 2-2 note, head coach Drew Wood decided to mix things up. He moved Kevin Bush (12), a receiver, to split time as quaterback with Matt Witham (12). The Spartans then won four of their next five games, including a 38-2 rout of the Norwell Knights.

The team started its hot streak with a 34-21 win over the Bellmont Braves on September 19.

Nate Carden (11) drew first blood for Homestead with an 87 yard kick return. Ryan Koepke (12) then returned an interception 67 yards for a touchdown. Tim Reid (11) then raced 17 yards for the Spartans' third touchdown of the first quarter. After a blocked extra point, Homestead led 20-0.

Bellmont opened the second quarter with a 1 yard touchdown run. Carden countered with an 88 yard kick return, his second of the game. The first half ended with a 26-7 Spartan lead.

Ryan Rahrig (11) ran 49 yards for Homestead's only touchdown in the second half, while Bellmont scored twice.

The Spartans were scheduled to play DeKalb at home the next Friday. Due to lightning, the game was pushed back a day.

The only scores all game for the Spartans were a Witham to Bush pass and a 36 yard Witham field goal. The defense was smothering, allowing DeKalb only 54 yards. Homestead won 10-0.

On a rainy and sloppy Friday night, Homestead lost its third game of the season 7-0 to the Carroll Chargers.

Homestead never got their offense in gear. By the middle of the fourth quarter it looked as though they were finding a rhythm, and then Carden fumbled on a punt return with about two minutes to go.

After a tough loss at home to the Chargers, the Spartans had their way on the road with the Norwell Knights in a 38-2 victory.

The Knights started off strong with a safety early in the first quarter, but itwould be their only two points of the night.

The Spartans put 38 straight points on the board. Bush ran for two touchdowns and threw one to Jake Labas (12). Carden returned a punt 32 yards for a score. Witham sprinted 52 yards for a touchdown and added a 34 yard field goal.

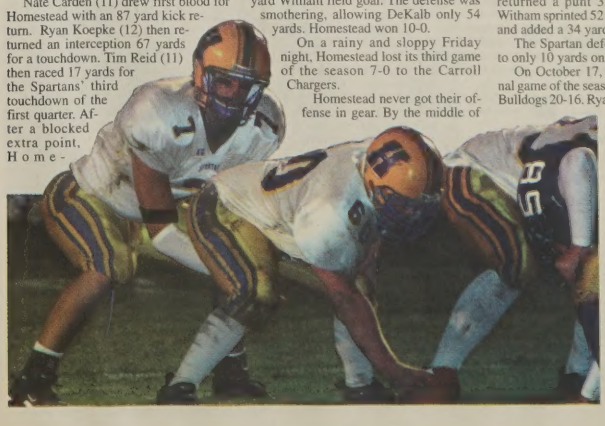
The Spartan defense held the Knights to only 10 yards on offense.

On October 17, the Spartans, their final game of the season, beat the New Have Bulldogs 20-16. Ryan Torres (12) made the game saving interception with less than a minute to go.

In their last four games, the Spartan defense has played well, allowing only a total of 23 points. Defensive lineman Jarrod Shaw (11) is tied for the lead in the NHC for sacks with 4.

The Spartans finished the regular season 6-3 and gear up to play the Marion Giants tonight at 7:00 p.m. at home in the first round of the postseason.-

photos / zach hetrick



——— Left: Kevin Bush (12) takes the snap from the center, Richard Roelke (12). Bush passed for 106 yards against the New Haven Bulldogs on October 17. Above: Tim Reid (11) finds a whole in the line against the Columbia City Eagles. Reid rushed for 84 yards and scored one touchdown against the Eagles. Right: Ryan Rahrig (11) breaks a tackle against the Bulldogs. Rahrig ran for 25 yards against the Bulldogs, giving him a season total of 594 rushing yards, good enough for sixth overall in the NHC. Rahrig and Reid combined for 8 rushing touchdowns this season. ———

the Spartana
DISPORT

(di - spôrt´) v. to occupy oneself with diversion or amusement

Spartan Briefs

Colts Football

The Indianapolis Colts will play the Houston Texans next Sunday, October at the RCA Dome. The Colts come off a bye week with a record of 5-1, for only the second time in the club's 20 year history in Indianapolis. The Texan's 2-4 record should not be overlooked, however, quarter back, David Carr has passed for 1,251 yards through five games. Sunday will be the Colts and Texans third game against eachother, the Colts dominated the last two meetings. Kick off is at 4:15 p.m. (EST)/3:15 p.m. (CST).

Purdue Football

The Purdue Boilermakers (6-1) will take on the Michigan Wolverines (6-2) on Saturday, October 25 at Michigan. Both teams are undefeated in Big Ten play. No. 15 Purdue (6-1, 3-0) was led by quarterback Kyle Orton, who threw for 411 yards on 38-of-55 passing, with one touchdown and no interceptions last Saturday, October 18 against Wisconsin. However, Michigan State held Minneapolis to just 148 yards on the ground which was significant seeing as Michigan had allowed the Gophers 424 yards rushing the week

US Women's Soccer

The USA's Women soccer team relieved third place in the World Cup. Although their loosing record enabled the team to continue in the tournament, they won over Canada 3-1 on October 12, 2003 during their final game of their season. With the win, the US entered the record book by becoming the only team to finish in the top-three of every FIFA Women's World Cup.

Komets Hockey

With fourteen players returning from last year's team, the Komets get ready for the season to begin. The training camps have already begun for the team with a main focus of making sure the new players can work well with the old. The team lost their second straight exhibition by a- game to the Kalamazoo final. Wings on Saturday, October 18 with a score of 4-0.

Wheelchair Tennis Championships

Noah Yablong(9) competed in the 2003 Quickie US Open Wheelchair Tennis Championships in San Diego, CA October 7-12. Yablong, who has been competing in wheelchair tennis tournaments since March 2003, received 10th place out of 100 in the US for Wheelchair Junior Open Division and 51st out of 100 for Wheelchair Men's C Division. Look for additional information on handicapped competitions in the next issue.

Boy's Tennis

Homestead Boy's Tennis place second in the semi-state draw. To get there, the team beat #8 Carroll and #6 Delta, with a lost to #3 West Lafeyette. On the way to semi-state the team won its 27th sectional in a row. Every varsity player got either first or second All-Conference.

Girls Cross Country

The Spartan girl's cross country team finished second overall at regionals on Saturday, October 18 at Bellmont High School. Leann Sarka (12) and Samantha Lee (10) led the team with fifth and sixth place respectively. The team advanced to semi-state competition at IPFW on Saturday, October 25.

Boys Soccer

The Homestead boy's soccer team won the sectional tournament on Saturday, October 18 against Northrop with a score of 5 to 1. The team's record after this win improves to 12-1-3. Goals were scored for Homestead by Grant Leiendecker (10), Kyle Dulworth (12), Shane Connolly (11), Ben Haifley (11), and Matt Sulkin (12). The team has now advanced to regional play on October 21.

Girls Soccer

The Lady Spartans defeated Bishop Luers with a score of 3-2. Angie Heyer led the team with two goals, one of which came with less than two minutes to go to take the lead against Luers. The Lady Spartan's record this year is 15-4-1.

Volleyball

The Homestead volleyball team won their last four games on Saturday, October 18 against Southside, Lake Central, Snider, and Bishop Luers. This takes the Lady Spartan's record to 26-3-1. This record is good enough to capture the first place spot in the NHC. Their next game is on the 23rd of October at Huntington North.

Hockey

The Spartan hockey team began their season with a record of two wins and one loss. The team has played against Northrop, Northside, and Snider thus far. The hockey team plays every Wednesday night at the McMillian Arena against various high school teams.

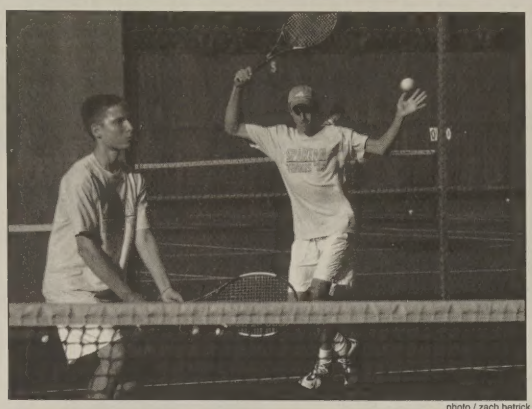


photo / zach hetrick

Kyle Brown (12) returns a serve while Alex Bienz (12) focuses on his opponents

Boys' tennis team conquers sectional title for 27th time

Postseason dreams cut short by loss to West Lafayette in semi-state competition

tyler keena
writer

The boys' tennis team's hopes of returning to the state competition were shattered by a disappointing loss at semi-state earlier this month.

The tennis team suffered a disappointing 3-2 loss to Carroll as the postseason approached. This loss came as a surprise and was the team's only conference loss and marked the first time that the boys' tennis team lost the conference title since 1991.

"We were disappointed about losing to Carroll and not winning conference," Alex Bienz (12) said. "We didn't play our best tennis and it was a match we knew we should win."

After the team's conference loss, the focus quickly shifted towards the postseason and the potential rematch against Carroll, where the boys could avenge their previous loss.

"We were really looking forward to the rematch with Carroll at regionals and for three weeks after the match, we focused on avenging our loss," Bienz said.

In order to better the depth of the team and improve their postseason chances, changes were made to the lineup.

"The changes that were made were logical and made our team a lot better," Bienz said. "We knew if we took a little pressure off our players with less experience we would do better against Carroll and other teams in the postseason."

The changes were made heading into sectional competition, and they seemed to be successful as the team breezed through the two matches. The team won both sectional matches 5-0 against Bishop Luers and Canterbury.

After the sectional win, the team advanced to regional play and quickly got off to a good start with a 5-0 victory against East Noble. The next match was against Carroll and the team got revenge from their prior 3-2 loss with a 4-1 win. This win advanced the team to semi-state competition.

At semi-state, the 10th ranked Spartans would play sixth ranked Delta (whom they beat earlier in the season) followed by playing third ranked West Lafayette (whom they lost 5-0 to earlier in the season).

"We were really hoping to get past West Lafayette and advance to state, but we knew we would have to play our best tennis possible because they are such a good team," said Bienz. "We thought our lineup changes gave us a better shot, but we still knew we had to play very well."

The team beat Delta 3-2 in the first match of semi-state, but had their season stopped short with a tough 4-1 loss to West Lafayette.

Every member of the varsity team received first or second team all-conference honors. Sam Rocke, who played number one singles, received first team all-conference honors. Also receiving all-conference honors was the doubles team of Alex Bienz and Kyle Brown.

"We were disappointed to not advance to state competition," said Bienz. "But we felt we improved and played well enough to win very tough matches against Carroll and Delta to make it as far as we did."

PEAK PERFORMER

KYLE BROWN (12)

Brown played number one doubles before being switching to number two doubles heading into sectionals. Brown's versatility was vital to the team's postseason run. Brown went undefeated throughout sectional and regional competition.

Tough competition commences season for Spartan Hockey

jared baker
writer

With a new season underway, hype over the 2003 Spartan Hockey team has begun. Expectations for this team are very high coming off their back to back league championships. With only four graduating players from last years squad not returning, the core of the team remains together. Returning players include the top ten scorers from last years championship team, along with a solid group of defensemen. Seth Lamb, senior goalie, will be an ample ingredient to the Spartans' team this season in his first year as a full time starter at the goalie position.

The three way tandem of Eric Blume (12), Ryan Marshall (12), and Paul Gauger (11) at forward will give the Spartans the ability to easily 'light up the lamp' this season. Their combination of speed, finesse and ability to score is unrivaled in Fort Wayne. The depth of the Spartans bench alone should give them as much success as anything this season. Along with the first line, the Spartan bench has as much talent as the rest of the league's starting offenses.

Behind the forwards is a tough defense led by team captain Nick Knoblauch (12). The defense has tremendous size with Knoblauch, Dan Cohen (12), Nick Baker (11), and Skyler Villers (9).

"Overall, we are pretty good, but we make mistakes every once in awhile," Knoblauch said. "We started the season off a little rocky but we have a bright season ahead of us."

Behind the defense is Lamb, the starting goalie, a bright spot in the Spartan's already shining lineup.

"He's the future of Homestead hockey," says coach Robbie Starkey of Lamb last year. Lamb is expected to lead his team through the season to a third regular season championship.

The state ranked Homestead Hockey team hopes to continue the tradition of winning this year. With the addition of Villers (defenseman) and Ryan Gidley (forward) to an already great squad, the team has the opportunity to conquer the city and state championship titles.

"If we don't have an injuries or anybody fall out because of grades we should be able to meet our expectations. We also need more fan support for us to have the desire to win," said Seth Lamb (12). With the senior leadership of this team and the talent of the underclassmen, they should have a dominant season.

The team began its season Wednesday, October 1st with a great start. They acquired two goals from forwards Gauger and Matt Teeters (12), but couldn't hold off the Northrop attack in a 7-2 loss. After that, the Spartans seemed to lose focus. They became over confident, believing Northrop would give up, and didn't play to their ability. Northrop answered by finishing the game with a nearly flawless performance.

"I know I am not alone when I say we will not lose like that again...We just need people to come out and go crazy, we need to have some fan support like the other teams, right now were not getting that," said Lamb commenting on Wednesdays game. "This is really something to learn from and build off of. We came in cocky, and were surprised by the strength of the Bruins," said Gauger after the loss against Northrop.

The Spartans came into the next game against the Northside Redskins. The Spartans kept up with the Redskins for most of the game. The two teams were tied going into the third period but Redskins added 3 goals in the third to win.

The Spartans regrouped for their next game against Snider. The Spartans jumped out to a 3-0 lead with Jordan Churchill's natural hat-trick. The Spartans never looked back as they defeated the now 0-3 Snider Panthers. With a 1-2 Record the Spartans focus is to get back to their winning ways of previous seasons.

The Spartans play the Carroll Chargers next Wednesday at the Mcmillen Arena at 7:30.

Volleyball team reflects as season draws to end

Girls prove victorious against Elmhurst, Snider, Marion, Harding

jessica bird
writer

The volleyball team is setting new expectations for the rest of the season as they learn new techniques and continue to improve on old ones.

The season started off with a loss to Concordia, but with the help of Stephine Ingram's (12) 21 attacks against Bishop Luers, the Spartans also won their second match. The Spartans won the third and fourth games of the season against North Side and Wayne. Then, Jillian Howell (12) helped the Spartans win against Huntington North with 25 assists. The girls won their next 6 matches against Bishop Dwenger, Marion, Elmhurst, Snider, Harding, and Columbia City. They also beat Carroll and Penn, but lost to Elkhart Memorial on September 20. The girls redeemed themselves three days after with a win against Dekalb

"We started off not so great [in the beginning of the season]," Alyssa Goar (10) said, "But, our focus is getting a lot better we are working well as a team."

Inbetween volleyball seasons, to maintain and work on skills, many of the girls went to camps.

"I have been to just about every camp around," Kelly Bautz (10) said. "Most of them were good experiences. I usually go during the summertime, and the college camps are over night for four days. We concentrate on uses of different skills, and usually we have a tournament at the end of camp."

Along with camps, the team's coach, Matt McCarter, provides words of wisdom as he helps the girls improve and become better volleyball players.

"Our coach has very high expectations for us, because he knows our potential"

-Erica McMahon (10)

"We know what we need to work on and we are smart about it. [McCarter] lets us work on what he thinks we need to work on," Erica McMahon (10) said. "He helps us tremendously. He's a big asset to the JV and Varsity teams."

Most of the girls on the team have been playing since middle school. This helps the team immensely, since they know each other's style.

"Team unity is very important," McMahon said. "At the matches we get to hang out as a team, and we're all very close off the court."

Another reason that the team members strive to improve and play their best.

"In volleyball there are a lot of expectations," McMahon said. "Our coach has high expectations for us, because he knows our potential."

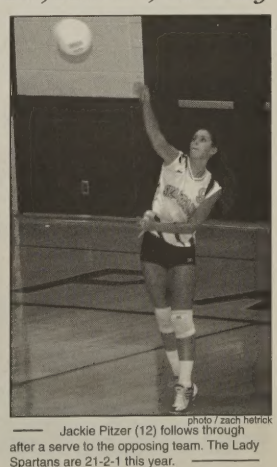


photo / zach hetrick

Jackie Pitzer (12) follows through after a serve to the opposing team. The Lady Spartans are 21-2-1 this year.

(dis' -pā'shən)
n. An amusement; diversion

the Spartana
DISSIPATION

3b
October 17, 2003

Girls soccer charges into postseason

photo / zach hetrick

tyler keena
writer

After finishing their regular season, the girls soccer team entered postseason play with momentum in their favor.

The girls finished the year with only three losses, the most recent of these losses coming against Noblesville. They won several important games towards the end of the season, with victories against non-conference foes Snider and Canterbury, as well as wins against conference opponents Carroll, Norwell, and New Haven. The Spartans downed Carroll 3-0, giving Carroll their only conference loss this year. This was an extremely significant conference win for the girls.

"The game against Carroll was our hardest and most important win of the season," Lindsey Julius (11) said. "We showed great improvement since the beginning of the season and everyone on the team is really coming together and reading off of each other nicely."

The team also clinched an NHC championship with important wins over conference opponents Norwell and New Haven.

As the team headed into sectional play, they hoped that they would be able to continue the success that they had enjoyed for the whole season.

"Our postseason competition will be extremely tough at every level, but if we play like we've been playing, I think making it to state is a definite possibility," Julius said. "Our seniors have shown great leadership. The whole team practices hard and everybody wants to win, and hopefully we can keep that up."

The team's hopes were answered during sectional play. The girls started their postseason run with a 9-0 victory over South Side. Their success continued into the second and third games with a 5-0 win over Columbia City and a tough 3-2 win over Bishop Luers. The team clinched the sectional championship with their 3-2 win over Bishop Luers. Angie Heyer led the team with two goals, one of which came late in the game to break the 2-2 tie.

The team advanced to regional competition on Wednesday, October 22 at Homestead, playing Bellmont in the first round.

Left: Kathryn Zachman (10) evades a foul by Snider junior Erica Knox (11) during the September 27 Homestead victory. Below: Jessica Bruce (10) dives for a ball kicked in her direction and collects a save.

photo / zach hetrick

Former HHS tennis star shines at IU

tyler keena
writer

Former Homestead tennis star Ryan Recht is now shining on the Indiana University tennis team.

Recht played tennis at Homestead from 1997-2000, playing number two singles his freshman year and number one singles the remainder of his high school career. During his four years of tennis at Homestead, Recht only lost six matches. He also led the team to undefeated conference records, and sectional and regional wins throughout his four years at Homestead. He led the team to two semi-state wins and to the state finals in 2000. Recht also made it to the semifinals of the state singles tournament in 2000.

"I thought Recht had the ability to play tennis at a division 1 college because of his outstanding top spin, power, serve, and mental game."

-Former coach
Jim Clark

As a sophomore, junior, and senior, Recht was a first-team all-state selection. His senior year he was ranked number 8 in the nation in doubles and number 119 in the nation in singles. Recht has also won the Fort Wayne City Tournament the last three years, setting the record for the youngest person ever in the history of the tournament to finish first at the age of 17.

"I thought Recht had the ability to play tennis at a division 1 college because of his outstanding top spin, power, serve, and mental game," Recht's high school coach Jim Clark said. "[Recht] was successful because he worked hard, his parents were involved in his play, he played lots of tournaments in the off-season, and he had lots of coaches that guided his progress."

Recht's hard work has shown at the college level in Bloomington. His sophomore year at Indiana (2002-03), Recht played mostly number five singles, and he led the team in overall singles victories, as well as singles victories in the Big Ten Conference. Recht played as high as number three singles during the 2002-2003 season. He also played doubles, mostly at the number one spot, and went 13-13 for the year.

After a much improved sophomore year at IU, Recht will have his first match of his junior year in mid-October.

Girls golf team finishes strong

tracy kosmala
writer

This year's girls golf team was a hard-working group. With some in-season wins and a fifth place finish at the East Noble Regional, the team has completed their season.

"Our in-season matches went pretty well, but we lost a few matches that we really wanted to win," Sam Nolting (10) said.

Even though the team didn't achieve all of their goals this season, they exceeded many people's expectations. On September 20, the team had a big win at the Bluffton Sectional. With 372 points, the girls beat out ten other teams for a first place victory. Connie Shim (12) was the top scorer for Homestead with a score of 45 on a nine hole course.

"Our goals for this season were to do our best and make it to state," Shim said. "Unfortunately, we weren't able to make it out of regionals. This year was one of the toughest regionals Homestead has seen in a long time; and we scored well, but our competition was tough. We did our best."

The team placed fifth at regionals, held on September 27 at Noble Hawk. Ashley Rohlfing (10) and Holley Dickmeyer (11) both stepped up and each shot a team best 41, five strokes over par, to lead Homestead to their overall score of 352.

"Hopefully next year we'll have quality practices; and the same leadership from the juniors as we saw from the seniors this year," Nolting said, reflecting on this past season.

The golf team has been ranked fifth out of nineteen teams for this season. This season's totals show that Shim had the lowest average of 41.5. Rohlfing, one of the younger girls on the team, was second with an average of 44.8; followed by Dickmeyer at a 45.1. With a relatively young team, the girls can only expect great seasons to follow.

Right: Ashley Rohlfing (10) lines up a put on the 1st green at East Noble's regional match. The girls ended their season by placing fifth in regionals after an 18-hole round at Noble Hawk on September 27. Rohlfing shoots a 44 on average for 9 holes, and played at the number two Varsity spot for Homestead. She shot an 41 on the front and a 46 on the back at East Noble's regional match, and her season low was a 39.

photo / zach hetrick

Boys cross country finishes under par

Team considers unsuccessful season to be a learning experience for inexperienced underclassmen, look foward to next year

suhasini bhargava
associate entertainment editor

Overcoming the loss of numerous valuable seniors, a lack of experience among a team dominated by underclassmen, demanding practices, and tough competition from local Northeast Hoosier Conference schools, the boys cross country managed to defeat Elmhurst High School (49-91) and Bellmont High School (42-57) in previous meets. However, the boys lost to Dekalb High School (45-28) at an away meet on September 16.

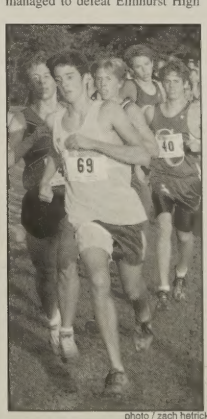


photo / zach hetrick

Ben Townsend (10) rounds a corner at Bixler Lake, East Noble's home course. Townsend finished in the top 30 at NHC, held on October 8th.

At the home meet against Elmhurst, Steve Clark (10) finished in fourth place followed by Chris Miller (10) in eighth place, Ben Townsend (10) in tenth place, and Ross Schomburg (11) in eleventh place. At the Bellmont Invitational, Clark placed fourth, Townsend finished sixth, while Schomburg ended in eighth place.

At cross country meets, competitors run a five kilometer race, which is approximately three miles. Faster runners can complete the race in around seventeen minutes, while the slowest runners can take as long as thirty minutes. The top seven runners from each team compete at the varsity level. Other runners participate at the reserve level. The winning team at each meet is the school with the lowest score.

This year, Clark is the team's number one runner. The varsity roster for the 2003 season includes, Townsend, Miller, Schomburg, Kyle Knezovich (9), Dillon Kimmel (9) and Brian Smith (12).

"It is strange to have to assume leadership responsibilities over people who are older than me," Clark said. "Sometimes I have to lead warm-ups and I don't want to overstep my boundaries but we still have to get the work done."

On September 23, the team lost to Norwell High School and New Haven High School. Additionally, the boys placed 5th ouf ot 30 teams at the West Noble Invitational with a score of 51. At the Northrop Invitational, the boys lost to Dekalb but managed to defeat Carroll.

"We lost to New Haven and Norwell [because] our whole team is made up of sophomores and freshmen," Clark said. "We have an inexperienced team but we will get better as time goes on."

The boys lost to Snider at the Snider Classic held on September 27 at Shoaf Park. The team placed 15th out of 17 teams. At the Jay County Invitational the boys finished in 8th place out of 15 teams. Clark led the team, finishing in 13th place.

The cross country team's strength lies in talent and dedication among team members. The team's weaknesses include a lack of upperclassmen and injured runners.

"We need more leadership on the team and [we need to] work harder," Clark said. "He [coach Dick Shenfeld] is a little frustrated but he realizes that we are a young team. Forrest Bishop (12) is injured and that works against us too."

As the cross country season approaches its final days, the team is focusing on qualifying for regionals. In order to participate at the regional competition, the team must place in the top five at sectional.

"We are in the hardest sectional in the state because we have some really good teams in our sectional," Clark said. "This year our main goal is just to make it past sectional."

Semi-state will be held on Saturday, October 25, and the state competition will be held on November 1 at Indiana University.

At the Northeast Hoosier Conference, the team placed 7th out of 8 teams. Clark placed 11th followed by Townsend in 21st place.

photo / zach hetrick

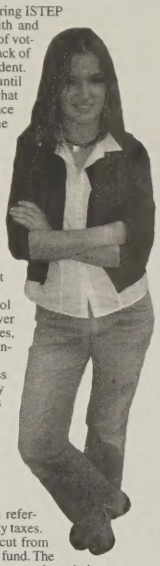
Steve Clark(10) accelerates in a straight chute at the NHC conference meet, which was hosted by East Noble on October 8. Clark finished with a time of 17:20. His 11th place finish gained him a 2nd team all-conference title. His best run, however, was at the Northrop Invitational, where he ran a 16:50. Clark was the team's number one runner.

4b
October 24, 2003

the Spartana
VERBOSE

(vər-bos) adj. Using or contianing an excessive number of words; wordy

Joanna Rogers, editor in chief



As I looked around the auditorium during ISTEP week, while Superintendent Brian Smith and Senator David Long recited the benefits of voting yes to the referendum, I noticed the lack of interest on the faces of more than one student. To be honest, I was bored. It was not until later that I realized the importance of what Dr. Smith was discussing and the relevance it had on me and every student in the school.

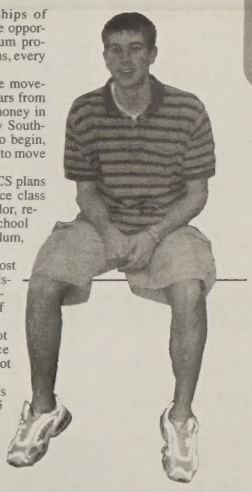
On November fourth, the school district is asking voters to say yes to a bill that would allow the school to create their won fund for improvements within the district. This fund would prevent other governmental agencies from interfering with the placement of this money and a repeat of the shift of control in 1992 when the government began taking money from South West and dispersing it to other school systems.

If the referendum passes, the school hopes to use the $1,575,000 gained to lower class sizes, offer a wider variety of classes, restore programs and numerous other benefits.

The district plans on lowering class sizes by hiring more teachers, especially in the elementary schools. School officials plan to spend nearly $600,000 to accomplish this goal. Money would also be used to expand the Student Resource Program at Homestead as well as adding a new counselor. A multitude of other uses of the money can be found on the schools website.

Along with educational benefits, the referendum would not increase school property taxes. The money for the new fund would be cut from capital expenditures in the capital projects fund. The goal officials are hoping to accomplish is to continue their strong commitment to academic excellence. Official's aspire to better the school district's ranking of 173 out of 293 school districts. Before funding was taken from South West Allen in 1992, the district ranked 15 out of 296 schools. Voting yes on November 4 is the stepping stone needed to put South West back on track for academic success.

Josh Zurawski, sports editor



Taxpayers in the townships of Aboite and Lafayette have the opportunity to vote on a referendum proposal. For very obvious reasons, every taxpayer should vote yes.

The referendum entails the movement of over 1.5 million dollars from one fund into another. The money in question can only be used by Southwest Allen County Schools to begin, so why shouldn't they be able to move their own money?

With the extra money, SACS plans to hire new teachers to reduce class size, including a new counselor, restore budgets in the various school programs, improve the curriculum, and keep a well trained staff.

This extra money could boost SACS's rank of 173rd of 293 districts in the state, possibly returning it to its former rating of 15th in the state in 1993.

The referendum would not raise taxpayers dollars since money is only being moved, not raised.

Without raising taxpayers's dollars, SACS plans to use 1.5 million dollars in a very positive way. There is no reason not to vote yes on November 4.

See related story on Page 1a

On November 4, taxpayers in Aboite and Lafayette townships have the opportunity to vote on the referendum proposal. I think all who are eligible should vote to enact the proposal.

The $1,575,000 dollar proposal would transfer money into a separate fund that cannot be touched by government agencies, only by Southwest Allen County Schools.

Today, SACS is ranked 173rd out ot 293 school districts. Eleven years ago, however, SACS was ranked 15th out of 296 school districts. With implement of the referendum money, SACS could afford to make many positive changes within the school district.

SACS has plans to reduce class size, restore programs, maintain the depth of curricular and elective offering, add an additional High School counselor, improve alignment of curriculum and instruction, better analyze student achievement data, and recruit and keep the best teachers and support personnel.

Not only will the referendum increase SACS "restore and support new academic programs," but it will not increase school property taxes.

Why wouldn't someone vote "yes" on November 4th? It seems to me, that there is no downside to passing the referendum proposal. It really is of benefit for taxpayers to go out and vote on November 4. Passing this proposal definitely supports our schools and community.

Zafar Sayed, news editor

VOTE YES...

Members of the editorial board discuss the referendum

OR NO...

Melanie Kuehnert, entertainment editor

When the topic of the SACS referendum was posed to me for the staff editorial, I had the realization I needed to do some outside research because I know nothing about it.

First off, what is a referendum? Dictionary.com defines referendum as "the submission of a proposed public measure or actual statute to a direct popular vote." I interpreted that as a proposal the administration believes in but need the public's approval for ratification.

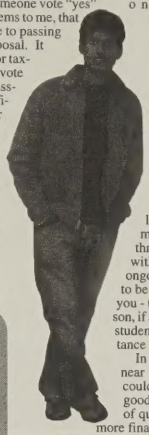
According to the SACS web site approving the referendum will cut back on class sizes, create counselor positions for students, and reinstate elective classes that require a larger budget, all with out raising school taxes. The changes in the take place until the 2004-2005 school year. The school board needs the voters to decide about the referendum to allow the money to be transferred from the building and equipment funds to studeht and programs.

All the research I have done on the referendum I believe the transfer of funds could only improve the school system. If the school board maintains their promise of not raising the school tax, the school system will benefit from the referendum.

Although I am a senior, I have impressed with the potential improvements for next year. Specifically, the ISTEP testing, and review sessions of the Advanced Placement tests. I think future student will prosper from the new program if they utilize it.

I believe the referendum is an idea that will create unforeseen opportunities for future students because the money found for the new programs will add to their education.

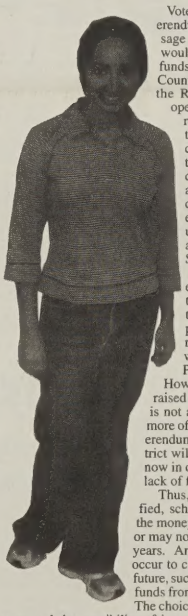
Mary Rozman, associate editor



Seems that every time I turn around, a new issue has sprung up about our supposed loss of funding in the district. In this case, the dilemma revolves around redistributing monetary resources into an account which the district would not be able to touch. So what does this do for the average student at Homestead High School? Theoretically, that extra couple of million dollars would allow SACS to hire more teachers and fund new programs throughout the district. All these benefits, with no downside. No increased taxes. No ongoing payments to the school. This seems to be good to be true . . . and here's news for you - there's no catch! There is very little reason, if any, to not vote for this referendum. Isn't student education the issue of prime importance here?

In a time when our school system is ranked near the bottom of the pack, more funding could probably be used to do a lot of added good. Right now we are desperately in need of qualified teachers in the area, and a little more financial incentive couldn't hurt.

Manasee Atre, copy editor



Voters should vote for the referendum on Election Day. Passage of the referendum, which would allow for the transfer of funds from the Southwest Allen County Capital Projects Fund to the Referendum Fund, would open the door for much needed resources for the school system. Referendum dollars could be used for a multitude of services, such as increasing teachers' salaries and hiring a new guidance counselor. In addition, referendum money could be used to reduce class sizes and restore the Homestead Student Resource Program.

Opponents of the referendum believe that while taxes may not be raised initially if the referendum is passed, taxes will have to be raised eventually - that is, when money in the Capital Projects Fund runs out. However, whether taxes will be raised at some point in the future is not a certainty. What is much more of a certainty is that if the referendum is not passed, then the district will likely have to raise taxes now in order to compensate for the lack of funds.

Thus, if the referendum is ratified, schools will speedily acquire the money they need, and taxes may or may not have to be raised in a few years. Any number of events could occur to change the landscape in the future, such as schools obtaining more funds from the state or other sources.

The choice facing voters is resources now and the possibility of increased taxes later, or no resources now and the virtual assurance of increased taxes now. With these options, the choice is clear - the referendum should pass.

The Editorial Review

The Scholastic Aptitude Test, more commonly known as the SAT, is often a deciding factor in college admissions. For many, performing well on this test involves months of studying and hard work. The SAT measures mathematical and verbal reasoning abilities. The Pre Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT) , which was administered to sophomores and juniors on Tuesday, is one beneficial study aid. The PSAT measures mathematical, verbal reasoning abilities, and writing. Juniors and sophomores are able to use the PSAT as an indicator of how they will perform on the SAT. Many schools do not offer the PSAT at all, and students are fortunate that it is offered here.

Editorial Board Vote: 6 For, 0 Against

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The Spartana is a monthly production of the Journalism 3/4 class at Homestead High School. Its purpose is to educate, enlighten, and entertain. *The Spartana* has and may continue to operate as a limited open forum for the free exchange of ideas.

Profanity may appear in *the Spartana* with the approval of the adviser, but only in cases of direct quotations or if it is necessary for clarity. Material which is libelous or obscene and could cause substantial and material disruption, as defined by the Supreme Court, will not be printed.

Pubic input will be accepted in the form of letters to the editor. Letters must follow standards concerning liable or obscenity. Those which could cause substantial and material disruption, as defined by the Supreme Court, will not be printed.

Staff members of *the Spartana* support the First Amendment rights and oppose censorship in any form. The content of the paper is determined by the student staff. In cases of potentially controversial material the editorial board will meet to decide the content of the newspaper. Students will be assisted by the adviser in areas of professional ethics and legalities.

Revolution

Should upperclassmen come to school during I-Step testing?

evan childers
writer

I hate having other people waste my time. Everyone does.

That is why I am constantly angry at Homestead. HHS embodies the idea of wasted time. For the most part I'm sure the place is worthwhile, but there are certain aspects of Homestead that make the place thoroughly unenjoyable. The excesses and wastes of the school, namely. Even if the purpose of the institution is noble, it still manages to steal away hours of our lives for pointless pursuits.

A prime example of this: during the ISTEP testing of freshmen and sophomores, all juniors and seniors were forced to stay at school and listen to presentations. Attendance was mandatory; the reason is unclear. Classes could not take place because of the irregularity caused by the testing, and yet wholly a half of the school was required to come and spend their day at Homestead. I don't know about you, but I have several ways I would rather spend a day than sitting around HHS staring at clocks.

"I'm sure the place is worthwhile, but there are certain aspects of Homestead that make the place thoroughly unenjoyable."

Were the presentations even worthwhile? The first individual, a District Attorney of some type, informed our class that there are consequences for participating in illegal activities. Did you know that you can get sent to jail for dealing crack? Thank goodness, Mr. Lawyer, that you were here to warn me- I was just about to go into the drug-dealing business and thought nothing whatsoever could go wrong. Also, law-abiding citizens may take note that bank-robbery, underage possession of firearms, and the possession of child pornography is, indeed, illegal. I know; I was surprised too.

Afterwards, several politicians tried to tell the class about budget constraints and county-wide spending. There were numbers and nice pictures and it was a lovely presentation, made for people who can actually vote and make a difference in such matters. I wish I could tell you more about these fine gentlemen and their fine quotas and data and speeches, but in all honesty I did not pay any attention.

An official in charge of admissions at IU came to talk to the class as well. The presentation was mainly a restatement of what we have all heard about colleges. Yes, it is true; colleges appreciate good grades. The rest of the speech pointed out that admissions standards for universities across the country are drastically different, and the speaker did a nice job of clearly telling the audience that he really couldn't tell you anything about how to get into the college of your choice.

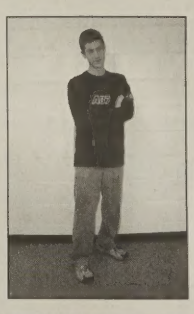
You know what I liked best about the IU official's presentation? He interjected an "mmkay" into almost every one of his sentences. "Mmkay" took the place of all breaks in speech: it acted as a comma, a period, an exclamation point, and a question mark. Unfortunately, it had the effect of detracting from the speech, and making the listener focus more on the oddities of the speaker.

What happened next? Cops and teachers took another large chunk of time reminding us that driving while intoxicated, high, drunk, or trashed is very dangerous. Death can be a result of such actions. This is very important to know; which is why it has already been hammered into our brains thousands of times since the second grade.

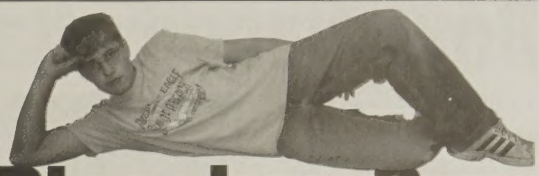
And they made me come to school for this? It is weeks later, months maybe; I have lost count, but I am still angry about it.

There was no actual schooling involved in school! All of our classes ended up being study halls, why did you make us come? What was the purpose? What havoc was going to be caused by letting us sleep-in one week out of thirty-six?

You know, I like being able to choose how to spend my time. I watched the NFL for three hours last Sunday, swinging in and out of subconsciousness, laying in a bleary daze on my living room couch. Rather pleased with my afternoon, I then watched the Cubs beat the Atlanta Braves in the fifth game of their post-season series (go Cubs, by the way). Overall, I had a fine day. I enjoy spending my time in such pursuits, even though there are those unenlightened individuals who would say I've wasted a precious day of my finite life. Maybe I did waste that day; who knows. But as long as there is time to waste, I think I'd like to waste it in my own way. Please don't make me sit in auditoriums and cafeterias, using all of my power to stay awake as I contemplate the formation of dust on my books. There are things I'd rather do than have HHS waste a day of my life. Let me sleep in next time, or get up, or just choose what to do with my time. We'll all be happy then, mmkay?



Evan Childers is a junior and works as a writer for the Spartana. The views and opinions expressed in this editorial do not necessarily represent those of the Spartana or of its staff.



The Bleacher Bum

The Chicago Cubs lose the NLCS to the Flordia Marlins.

tim clark
writer

A missed play here, a fan interfering there, an opportunity at the World Series back there, left behind in the dust of the mind boggling series loss to the Florida Marlins. Disgust is all that was on my mind after they lost game 6. After game 7, that disgust turned to pure sadness. The Cubs had one heck of a season this year. They deserved better that their fate, but the Cubs fate might be what killed them. Otherwise, it's the simple fact that the Cubs lost because of many missed opportunities.

Missed opportunities have always been the Cubs problem. It first began in 1945, the last time the Cubs played in the World Series. It began with the Cubs winning two of the first three games in that series. It's decided by the Cubs losing three of the next four. It's ended with missed opportunity.

It happened again in 1969. It began with a 13 game lead over the New York Mets, late in the season. It's decided when they blow that lead, giving the 'Miracle Mets' their chance. It's ended with a missed opportunity.

Once again in 1984. It began with the Cubs winning two games of a best of five series. It's decided when the Cubs lose the next three. It's ended with another missed opportunity.

Finally this year it's emerged again. The Cubs begin the playoffs against the Braves. They split two games at Turner Field. They won game three at Wrigley. They are set up to win their first postseason series in 95 years. Does it happen then? No. So they go to game five. Fortunately for the Cubs they pull out all the stops in game five, putting the Braves away. Next the Cubs face the Marlins. The Marlins know everything about miracles, after stunning teams in 1997 to capture the World Series championship. The Cubs came in winning three of the first four games. They would lose in game five. They would lose in game six, after blowing the lead, I might add, with five outs to go. The next day, they lost game 7. Missed opportunities are what are to blame.

What is not to blame, however, is anyone in particular. If nothing else, give credit to the mid-season acquisitions. Without some of these players the Cubs would not have been able to be in the position to advance to the World Series. Aramis Ramirez, Kenny Lofton, and Randall Simon gave so much to this team in the last half of the year. You couldn't have asked for a better output from a few guys that were being shipped from one losing team to one fighting endlessly for a postseason berth. They gave it their all and look what happened. The Cubs nearly pulled off the impossible. It still wasn't enough to push the Cubs into the World Series.

All we can say is, wait till next year. Really, that is all that can be said at the moment. The Cubs failed, but they are still the Cubs, fans will never leave them. Even if they lose every single game of the year, the die-hards will still be there to cheer on the Cubs. That closeness between the Cubs and their fans make them the greatest franchise in baseball history. Forget the Yankees. I would bet that if the Yankees lost every single game of the year, many of their fans would be hiding in the shadows of the baseball world. So this makes the Cubs the greatest ever. I'm not saying they are the greatest team as in they are dominant on the field. But more like that they are dominant in the hearts of fans. No mater if they win or lose, the Cubs are great. They are great in the minds of the fans. And that's all that counts.

Tim Clark is a sophomore and works as a writer for the Spartana. The views and opinions expressed in this editorial do not necessarily represent those of the Spartana or of its staff.

Do government spending habits benefit citizens?

logan braman
designer

In a world where the everlasting monotonous routine is king, it's sometimes nice to be surprised. Notice that I said it's nice sometimes. Here's the scene: I'm taking my normal Friday afternoon excursion to the bank to cash my check, and as I'm walking out of the bank I realize that something has gone terribly wrong. I run back inside and rush to the teller exclaiming "You just gave me a counterfeit bill! You just gave me funny money!" The teller calmly explains that there are new twenty dollar bills being distributed by the Treasury Department that are harder to counterfeit, and there's nothing to worry about. I left the bank feeling quite conspicuous and unintelligent.

Will the new twenty dollar bill be more difficult to counterfeit?

Although the story in the preceding lines didn't really happen, I can easily imagine it being reality. For those of you that haven't heard the news, the United States Treasury Department really has started to issue a new, harder-to-fake twenty dollar bill.

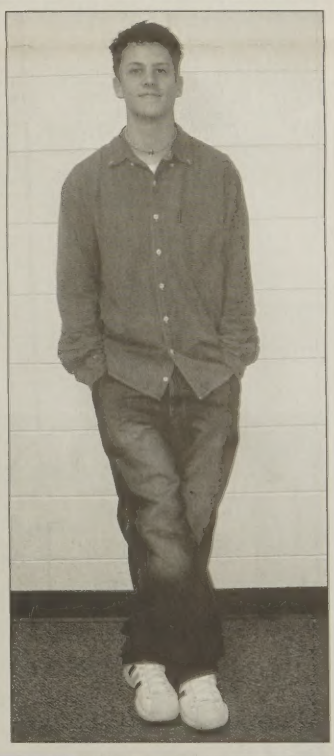
Unfortunately, our government, in it's infinite wisdom, also decided to spend thirty million dollars to tell us about these new twenty dollar bills. Yes, for all of you who are wondering, that is 1,500,000 of these new twenty dollar bills that will be used to tell us how great they are. I can think of a few better ways those millions and some twenties could be used instead of telling us all about them.

Not only did the government spend a substantial amount of money telling us about these new counterfeit- proof bills, they told us everything we need to know about the new features. Now, all of those great counterfeiters out there can be perfect when it comes to creating exact replicas of the new bills.

As an experiment, I decided to get onto the internet and find out what I could about the new bills. To begin, I simply went to yahoo.com and searched for "U.S. Treasury Department." Then, I was able to link directly to sites that had articles about the new twenty. I went to a site called "How Stuff Works: How the New Twenty Dollar Bill Works." This site contained three pages that described in detail the new features on the bill. I imagine that a counterfeiter might find all of this information useful when attempting to replicate the so called "harder to counterfeit" bill. I fail to see the logic in spending thirty million dollars to tell the world how to replicate this bill by telling us in detail all of the new features that can be found on it.

Will the new twenty dollar bill be more difficult to counterfeit? Only time will tell. One thing I do know now is that I would much rather have thirty million dollars dedicated to a nobler cause, such as repairing the problems in Iraq, than dedicated to informing me about the color of my greenbacks.

Logan Braman is a junior and works as a designer for the Spartana. The views and opinions expressed in this editorial do not necessarily represent those of the Spartana or of its staff.



True fans stick with their team

tyler keena
writer

As the baseball season plunges deeper into October, true fans are hard to come by.

It seems as any sports season progresses, fans tend to become more "fairweather" than ever, meaning they become fans of only the most successful teams, and no longer root for the teams that they supported only a few short months ago.

When the Chicago Cubs emerged from years of mediocrity to become the National League Central champs, it seems they picked up a multitude of "die hard fans." These fans seem to come out of nowhere, stealing the glory from the true fans who have continued to say "wait 'til next year" before, during, and after every season for as long as they can remember. Now that "the year" may have finally arrived, so have many aggravating "fairweather fans."

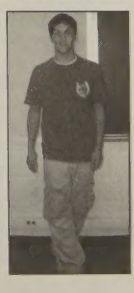
"The true fan should sticks with their team and root them on even during a bad year."

Although many people seem to be fairweather fans, it's still difficult to distinguish them from a team's true fans. In our opinion, a true fan roots for a team through thick and thin, from the beginning of the season to the end, no matter the result.

Let's face it, if you don't know the Cubs play their home games at Wrigley Field, you're not a true fan of the team.

The college football season has also progressed, with many surprise teams doing very well and many perennial powers sliding downward. Notre Dame, after a fantastic 2002 season, has gotten off to a horrible start to the 2003 season. As a result, many of the "fans" of last year have disappeared. Where is all the green and gold this year? Where are all the true Notre Dame fans now after crawling from the woodwork last season? The true fan should sticks with their team and roots them on even during a bad year.

Traditional Cubs fans exemplify the true sports fan, by remaining loyal the team, even through the years with under .500 records and zero chance of a playoff berth. True fans cheer on their teams even if they don't make the playoffs. When their team does not perform well, the true fan does not simply go in search of a new favorite team, but instead, they simply continue to root the team and just "wait 'til next year."



Tyler Keena is a junior and works as a writer for the Spartana. The views and opinions expressed in this editorial do not necessarily represent those of the Spartana or of its staff.

the Spartan a
EMINECE

(em´ə-n əs) n. a person of high station or great achievements

Boys soccer flattens competition

Boys soccer finishes regular season strong, and carries momentum into the post-season to capture Sectional title.

matt anderson
designer

photo / will vragovic

Homestead midfielder, Chase Meeks (11), chases down and kicks the ball away from Bishop Luers' forward Dexter Henry (11). Homestead played Luers on September 4th and ended up beating them 9-0. The Spartans are ranked 11th in the state this year, and have an overall record of 9-2-2. The team went 5-1-0 in conference, losing their only conference match to Carroll in a shoot-out. The boys won their sectionals last week, and had to play Carroll again in the regional finals to decide who would advance to semi-state.

As the scoreboard ticked the seconds away in the end of double overtime, with just seven seconds remaining on the clock, the boys soccer team managed to add one more goal to their existing three, and give themselves a chance to make the trip down to state for only the second time in Homestead's history.

Although the game to determine who would be Sectional champion was held Saturday October 18, the real finals were considered to be played on October 16 between Canterbury and Homestead. After four seasons of close calls and heartbreakers, the boys soccer team finally managed to again knock out Canterbury in the post-season, and continue on to take the Sectional title.

"I've played varsity all four years, and I can still remember every game we've lost in sectionals," Matt Sulkin (12) said. "I've played on some amazing teams, but we always came up short. To finally win it my senior year feels incredible."

The Spartans managed to edge out the Cavaliers by a score of 4-3 in double overtime after Canterbury had battled back in the second half from being down 3-1. The game appeared to being going into a shoot-out, until Shane Connolly (11) scored his third goal of the game with only seven seconds remaining on the clock.

"At first I looked up at the clock to see if time had expired, and then over to the referees to see if they had called off-sides," Connolly said. "Once I realized it was a legitimate goal, I knew we had won."

Earlier in the game Connolly along with Lee Castillo (11) were able to knock in two goals, both assisted by Ben Haifley (11). Those goals gave the team a 2-0 lead going into halftime, but the Cavaliers didn't go down that easily. At the start of the second half Canterbury was the first to score, followed by another goal by Connolly. Canterbury responded right away scoring their second goal seconds after Connolly had scored. The score then stayed 3-2 for about 15 minutes, and it looked as if Homestead was going to escape with the win they had been looking forward to the entire season.

"With only three minutes still on the clock, I thought we had a pretty good chance of winning it at 3-2," Connolly said. "It's usually not that hard to clear the ball from our side, but the wet conditions made it more difficult."

With three minutes remaining in the game, Canterbury shocked Homestead and scored once more tying the game at three all. The momentum shifted to the Cavaliers, and once again, it looked as if Homestead would be denied a chance to fulfill their post-season aspirations.

"When we almost had to go to a shoot-out we were getting kind of nervous," Connolly said. "So far this season our team has not been strong in shoot-outs at all. We were trying to avoid that shoot-out at all costs."

During the first overtime, which lasts seven minutes, neither school was able to successfully convert an offensive attack on the other team. The second overtime looked to be ending the same way until Connolly managed to chip the ball in from the corner with time slipping away. After the goal was scored, the stands and players paused for a second not knowing if the ball had really gone in, and then an explosion of noise erupted from fans overflowing from the stadium. The remaining seven seconds were played out, and the celebration began.

"It seemed like we just couldn't pull through in the big games," Sulkin said. "My sophomore year I watched as Luers drove away chanting "Homestead Sucks", then my junior year I had to watch Canterbury's fans rush out on the field. Watching that killed me, but to finally get over the hump meant so much to me and the other seniors. I can't even explain how amazing I felt."

Before the Cavaliers, the Spartans took down Columbia City 7-1. Haifley, Adam Hakey (11), and Steve Mendenhall (10) each had one goal, while Grant Leiendecker (10) and Castillo had two each. Leiendecker also had two assists during the game, along with Kyle Dulworth (12), Mendenhall, Alex White (10), and Sulkin who each had one assist.

In the finals Homestead had to play North Side who they defeated 5-1. Scoring for the team was Leiendecker, Dulworth, Connolly, Sulkin, and Haifley. The last team to win their Sectional was in 1999 after Homestead beat Canterbury 2-1 in a shoot-out. After taking the sectional title, they then went on to win regional and semi-state, and then make an appearance at state. This years team also hopes to have the same kind of success in their post-season,.

Before making it to state though, the team must beat Carroll in their regional on October 21st. The team lost to Carroll in the regular season in a shoot-out 2-1, which eventually lost them the conference. As of now the Chargers are ranked 13th in the state with the Spartans right ahead of them ranked 11th.

"The first time we played Carroll we really didn't play to our full potential," Connolly said. "With the season on the line now, I think we will step up to the challenge."

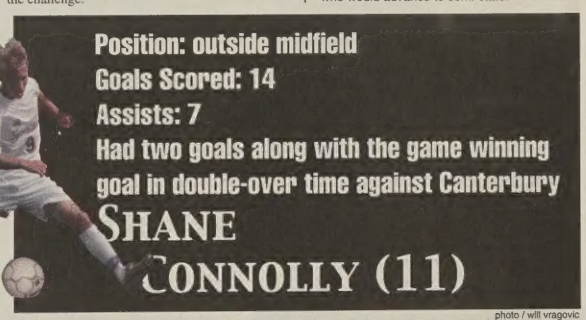


photo / will vragovic

Position: outside midfield
Goals Scored: 14
Assists: 7
Had two goals along with the game winning goal in double-over time against Canterbury

SHANE CONNOLLY (11)

KYLE DULWORTH (12)

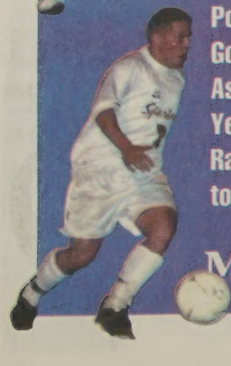
Position: offensive midfield
Goals Scored: 12
Assists: 11
Years on Varsity: 4
1st in NHC for total assists

photo / zach hetrick

MARK VRAGOVIC (12)

Position: goalie
Saves: 40
Goals allowed: 12
Time in goal: 924 min.
Years on varsity: 2
2nd in the NHC for goals saved percentage

photo / zach hetrick



Position: center midfield
Goals Scored: 13
Assists: 9
Years on Varsity: 4
Ranked 10th in NHC for total goals scored

MATT SULKIN (12)

photo / zach hetrick

Schedule and Results

Date	Opponent	Result	Score
8/23	Carmel	T	1-1
8/28	East Noble	W	10-2
9/2	Columbia City	W	5-1
9/9	Bellmont	W	4-0
9/13	Center Grove	W	5-0
9/15	DeKalb	W	2-0
9/20	Penn	T	0-0
9/20	Noblesville	L	1-2
9/22	Carroll	L	1-2
9/25	Dwenger	T	2-2
9/27	Canterbury	W	3-1
9/29	Norwell	W	4-1
10/4	Bishop Luers	W	9-0
10/6	New Haven	W	10-0

the Spartana
ENTERTAINMENT
October 24, 2003 Contact the Entertainment Editor at theSpartana@hotmail.com

Working in retail, food services

Local jobs for teens demand customer interaction skills, better presentation skills

kasey butcher
associate news editor

With college looming just a few short years away, many students are looking for jobs to help lighten the blow of tuition. This poses the question of where and how students should look for work in order to me most successful.

"I know a lot of young people who I've worked with who have been very successful in getting a job placement," Youth Program Director for Allen County Job Works Patty Thompson said. "A lot of kids don't know where to get the jobs. The kids today are competing for jobs and it's a matter of them having the skills to get the job."

Prime industries for the young work force include retail, cashiering for example, food services like waiting tables or working at a fast food restaurant. Although these areas do not require a degree or specialized work experience, they demand customer service and basic working skills such as showing up on time.

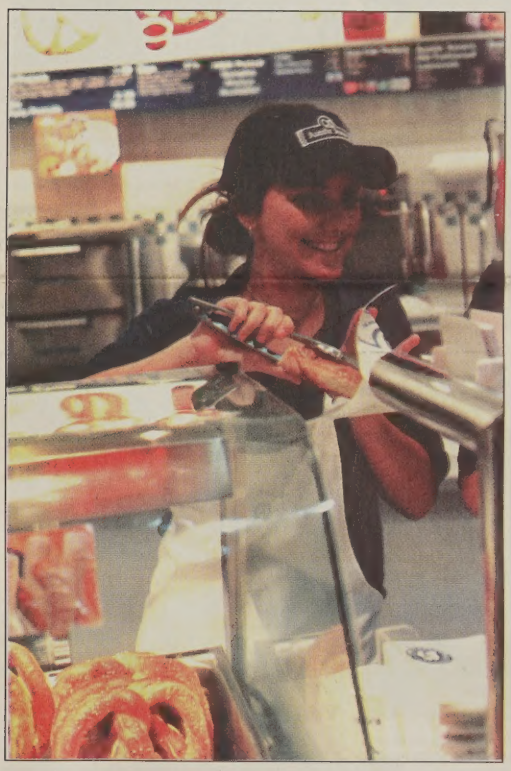
"The booming industries today are the health and medical areas, but those aren't available for teenagers because you have to be 18 and you have to have a degree," Thompson said. "So, the good industries for teenagers are still going to be retail, food service, and volunteer services."

Once prospective jobs are located, one must fill out an application and, in most cases, go in for an interview. Applications give employers information on a person's work history and interviews give them insight into the personality of a potential employee. Thompson had some tips on how to be successful in the application process.

"Two quick [tips] would be dress nicely," she said. "That doesn't necessarily mean a suit. It just means wearing dress pants and a dress shirt and for girls a dress shirt and a skirt or dress pants. As for applications, I'd just say always be honest. Also, always bring an erasable pen so if [you] make a mistake [you] can erase it as opposed to scribbling it out."

Recent local events, however, may take a toll on the amount of jobs available for young people. Corporations like Lincoln Financial Group and Wells Fargo have announced that they will be laying off hundreds of employees each. This means that many adults will either be leaving the area or looking for employment elsewhere.

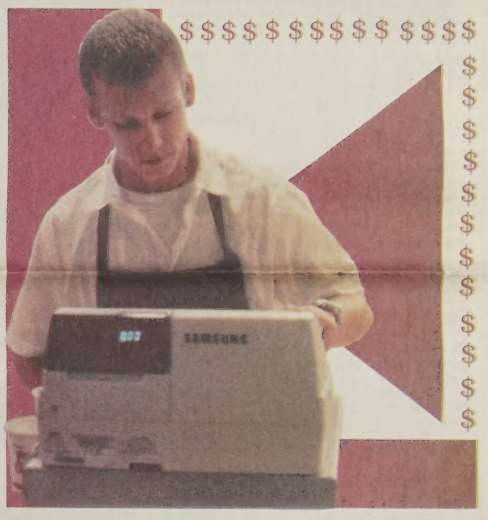
"If young people are looking for work they can find it, but now they're competing against people with a strong work history and who are older and who have degrees," Thompson said. "Teenagers are going to have to present themselves a little better, dress a little nicer, and fill out applications better."



Forbidden jobs for minors

- Drive a motor vehicle or operate a forklift
- Work in demolition
- Work in mining or logging
- Work in meat packing
- Work where explosives are manufactured or stored

source: American Academy of Family Physicians



——— Above right: Megan Hoffman (12) works as a cashier at Scott's. Similar to many jobs that teenagers hold, hers requires customer interaction. Below: Laurel Couture (12) serves a customer. Right: Jarred Nedeltton, a freshman at IPFW works at Clancy's. ———

——— Lucy Huth (12) works at Auntie Annie's in the Jefferson Pointe food court. In Fort Wayne, teenagers are typically offered jobs in the food services and the retail industry. ———

photos/colin knapp

Cellular phones gain popularity among teenagers

Fort Wayne Centennial Wireless, other companies offer numerous plans for custom use

ashley butler
designer

Although cellular phones have been in existence for almost 40 years, the increase in their popularity has skyrocketed in the past few years. This increase has even caused Homestead to make changes in school policies.

First developed by Dr. Martin Cooper, the cell phone has endured numerous changes since the concept went public in 1977.

In the late 70's and early 80's, cellular phones were extremely large and used only by the exceptionally wealthy. In addition, the phone frequencies would often become crowded, preventing users from being able to connect to the other party.

Phone companies did not realize that a change was necessary until 1987, when the number of cellular phone users surpassed one million.

In 1988, new technology was introduced to help companies grow and keep frequencies from overcrowding.

Today, there are many cellular phone providers who have countless phone towers, enabling users to call almost anywhere in the country.

Towers are used to pick up the signals from the small cells and transmit them to the other caller. It is necessary for many phone towers to exist so that widespread frequency can be experienced all over the country.

Phones also have encrypted codes in their systems. These codes identify the owner, phone, and provider, and are eventually transmitted to phone towers. Sometimes, cell phones get a message that reads "no service," because a tower that can identify a phone's code is not in close range.

"All carriers have different coverage; when someone is attempting to use their phone in the countryside, it literally may not be possible because of the company's boundaries," Fort Wayne Wireless employee Phil Coomer said. "The carriers that don't have full coverage are less expensive and therefore ideal for people who don't do a lot of traveling."

Knowing this information is important when purchasing a new cell phone policy, as different policies come with different limits.

Plans, as the professionals call them, are priced depending on options such as number of minutes, free long distance, free phone, free nights and weekends, and free mobile to mobile calling. Although these are basically the industry standards, many cellular providers have more to offer.

"We have free centennial to centennial calling which is an option. For example, if one of your friends who was using a centennial phone called you, neither one of you would have to use any minutes," Centennial Wireless employee Brandon Gick said.

> "Teenagers are certainly one of the up and coming populations of cell phone users, getting younger and younger all the time"
>
> **-Fort Wayne Wireless employee Phil Coomer**

As well as having different options, cell phone carriers also have warranties and cheaper policies for teenagers.

"We have what's called a no worry protection plan that really helps teens. If you drop your phone, you only need to pay a small deductible and the phone is easily replaceable," Gick said. "If you have a problem, you can just come right into the store and we can fix it for you at no charge."

Pricing varies with different plans, but is essentially standard between various companies.

"A basic 600 anytime minute plan is generally about 40 dollars, and when you add on voice mail, caller id, call waiting, and tax, the total comes to about 52 dollars per month," Gick said.

Pre-pay plans exist as well. The minutes are more expensive, and the service requires going into a cellular provider and purchasing minutes each month. Depending on the number of minutes and options, plan prices vary greatly.

Cell phones have become so popular that Homestead has changed one of its school policies.

"Teenagers are certainly one of the up and coming populations of cell phone users, getting younger and younger all the time," Coomer said.

The school used to require that students not have cell phones on school property at all during the day, but because of students involved in after-school activities, students needing to call for a ride home, etc. cellular phones are now allowed to be carried by students as long as they are turned off and do not ring during school hours.

2c
October 24, 2003

the Spartana
EXHORTATIVE

(ig-zor t -tiv) adj. intending to encourage, incite, or advise

Spartan Briefs

Guster

Performing on October 25 in Cininnatti, Ohio, the grass roots alternative rock band will be playing fan favorites such as "The Airport Song."The concert starts at 7:30 p.m. at the Taft Theater. Tickets cost $18.00.

Rascall Flatts

The popular country group will be performing their I Melt tour at the Emens Auditorium, in Munice on Friday, October 17. The band will be singing songs from their second and first album including, "I Melt" and "These Days". They will be performing with Chris Cagle and Brian McComas. All of the tickets cost $29.50, and the concert starts at 7:30 that night.

Shania Twain

Twain will be holding her concert at the Conseco Fieldhouse in Indianapolis on Tuesday, October 21. Twain is known for her pop/country albums that have gone multi-platinum. Tickets range from $45.00 to $80.00, and will start at 8:00 p.m. One of the most recognizable names in country, all of Twain's previous concerts have sold out.

Eagles

Performing at the Conseco Fieldhouse in Indianapolis, the classic rock group from the 70's will be playing all their greatest hits. The concert is on Saturday, October 25, and starts at 8:00 pm. Ticket prices range from $47.00 to $152.00. The band is known for their many hits, such as "Hotel California", "Witchy Woman", and "Take it Easy."

The Whole Ten Yards

The comedy and sequel to the Whole Nine Yards, stars the same cast as from before with Matthew Perry, Bruce Willis, and Amanda Peet with lead roles. It comes out October 17, and is rated R. The first movie followed the life of an average suburban dentist, who is surprised by the arrival of an ex-mafia man next door.

Texas Chainsaw Massacre

This remake of the 1974 cult classic horror film follows five 20-somethings who encounter a gang of Texas cannibals and find themselves pursued by a chainsaw wielding insane man known as Leatherface. The film stars Jessica Biel and Eric Balfour and is rated R. It hits theaters on October 17.

Intolerable Cruelty

The movie came out October 10, and stars George Clooney, Catherine Zeta-Jones, and Billy Bob Thornton. It is the story of a Beverly Hills attorney who frames the wife of one of his clients. He does this to keep his client from paying his wife any settlements, but soon the plot takes a few romantic twists. The movie is rated PG-13 for sexual content, language, and brief violence.

Runaway Jury

Premiering on October 17, 2003, the crime thriller stars Gene Hackman, John Cusack, Dustin Hoffman, and Rachel Weisz. Based on a novel by John Grisham, the movie follows the story of a group of people who try and swing an important court case by buying the jury. The high-profile lawsuit has millions at stake, and soon competitors from both sides complete to buy out the jury. The movie is rated R for violence and language.

Mystic River

Based on the novel by Dennis Lehane, the movie follows the story of three childhood friends who are brought together to investigate the murder of one of their daughters. While searching for clues shocking connections are made between the murder and someone in the group. The movie stars Kevin Bacon, Sean Penn, Tim Robbin, and Laurence Fishburne. The film is rated R for language and violence.

The Matrix Revolutions

Picking up where the Matrix Reloaded ended, the final chapter to the Matrix trilogy finishes the story off. With swarms of squid machines attacking the last city, Zion, viewers can expect a plethora of action. The trailers have already shown numerous battles between Neo, Agent Smith, Agent Smith, and Agent Smith. The movie is rated R, and is set to be released November 5.

Calendar

10.17 Rascall Flatts concert in Muncie at 7:30 p.m.10.17 Texas Chainsaw Massacre is in theaters. 10.18 Show Choir Clinic 10.18 Michael W. Smith and Mercy Me in concert 10.21 Shania Twain concert in Indianapolis at 8:00 p.m. 10.21 Grading period ends 10.25 State marching band finals in Indianapolis.

Ceramics students visit environmental center

Advanced pottery classes explore ancient Japanese glazing technique

suhasini bhargava
associate entertainment editor

Kneading to smooth imperfections in a mixture made from clay power and water, wedging clay to remove air bubbles, and glazing and firing pots to add color and shine has become routine for third year advanced ceramics students.

Advanced ceramics, a one semester class fine arts course allows students to express creativity and create several types of pottery. Advanced ceramics is offered to all students who have successfully completed the prerequisite, beginning ceramics. The class is taught by fine arts teacher, Cindy Husar.

Throughout the year, students in advanced ceramics are provided with numerous opportunities to create pottery in a relaxed environment. Students are allowed to listen to music during class and are encouraged to work independently at their individual paces.

"We have a lot of freedom to work on our own," ceramics student Stacey Youn (12) said. "She [Husar] makes sure we work in a good atmosphere."

At the beginning of each semester, students are asked to meet certain requirements and "throw" an established number of pots. Some of the different types of pots that the students work on throughout the semester include wheel-thrown pots, slab pots, coil pots and combination pots. Combination pots include varieties such as teapots and other pieces of pottery that consist of numerous pieces that need to be assembled. The teapot, for example, incorporates a spout, a lid and the pot itself. It is mandatory for students to make stacked pots, which are two cylindrical pots stacked on top of each other, lidded pots and large bowls.

Grades for advanced ceramics are determined by completion and quality of projects. Work ethic in the classroom is also taken into consideration.

"People pass [the class] but they rarely get A+s because people's pots don't usually turn out perfectly," Youn said.

The fundamental process of making pottery includes making the clay, throwing it on to an electric wheel and centering it, adding color to the pot by glazing it, and finally firing it at high temperatures.

"Last year I made 20 pots for one semester," Meghan Kelly (12) said. "A week is a long time to spend on one pot, but sometimes we also spend two weeks on a pot."

In an attempt to master an ancient Japanese glaze created from metals such as copper and magnesium, the advanced ceramics classes visited the environmental center for a field trip on October 1. The classes spent the entire day at the environmental center working on Raku glazing. The Japanese glazing technique known as Raku, is achieved by heating the pots in a kiln at more than 1500 degrees Fahrenheit. The heat allows chemical reactions oxidation and reduction to occur and leaves the pots with a shiny finish.

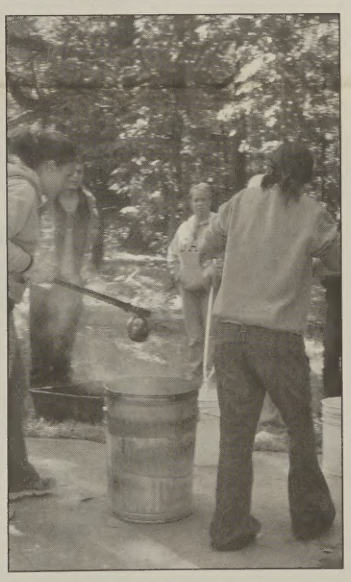
"We had a bonfire and we took care of our pots," Youn said. "We also ate during breaks and took walks."

Overall, the ceramics classes allow students to use their creativity while incorporating out-of-classroom experiences such as a visit to the environmental center.

"Throwing [pots] relieves so much stress," Youn said. "When I throw, I'm in my own zone."

photo/ suhasini bhargava

Ceramics students scrub and rinse their pots with water. Above far right: Art teacher Cindy Husar lectures while students take notes about raku glazing.



Students take their pots off the hot kiln after the pots have been heated. Right: Students place pots in sawdust to allow oxidation and reduction to occur.

Experiencing a non-traditional school day

Anthis Career students leave Homestead at mid-day

thao ngo
writer

Homestead offers two programs for upperclassmen that give students opportunities that the high school experience cannot provide. These programs, Anthis Career Center and Co-Op allow students the chance the insight into possible careers.

Juniors and Seniors have the choice of attending Anthis for three hours a day either in the morning or in the afternoon(usually 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. or 12:00 noon to 3:30 p.m.). Spaces in these programs are limited and are by application only. Some programs at Anthis require tools, safety equipment, and uniforms.

"This program helps students pick out a career," said Kristina Bocabella(11), who participates in the Culinary Program at Anthis. "It's cool. I like it. We make food for restaurants and people," Bocabella stated.

Anthis offers approximately ten programs that range from a variety of choices. Antheis offers classes such as health careers, hospitality services, cosmetology, and landscaping management.

"I chose the Early Childhood Education program. I wanted to work with children," Heather Collins (11) said. "We study how to be teachers and how to work with children."

In addition to giving students the opportunity to learn about future jobs and careers, Anthis also gives students the chance to learn about each job's pros and cons. The students work in the laboratories, classrooms, and on-site locations throughout the year.

> "I chose the Early Childhood Education program. I wanted to work with children. We study how to be teachers and how to work with children"
>
> **-Heather Collins (11)**

Another out-of-school program, Co-Op, allows seniors that qualify to focus on class instruction with hands-on experience in the business world. Co-Op offers programs such as careers in offices, computer operations, sales, customer service, day care, law enforcement, architecture, farming, and many more.

"I chose Co-Op because I get to leave school early and then go to work," said Nicole Wolfe (12).

Students benefit from being in Co-Op because they receive work experience and pay. They have the chance to explore careers and determine their post secondary plans.

"Co-Op gives me a great work experience, it prepares me for work when I'm out of high school," Wolf said.

In order to participate in Co-Op, students must be seniors and need to complete an enrollment form, and be interviewed. In addition, they must have parental permission to be a part of Co-Op.

"I think that Co-Op can help students chose a career because through Co-Op they can see if they would really enjoy that occupation," said Ashley Gross (9).

Students who participate in Co-Op also receive class credit. They must provide at least 15-20 hours of work per week during the school year to receive 2 credits each semester.

"I believe that Co-Op is an excellent program, Wolfe said, "It teaches high school students how to be responsible."

Students that participate in Co-Op are expected to behave themselves while in the classroom and while on the job. Any illegal activity will disqualify them from participating in the work experience portion of Co-Op.

"It[Co-Op] has been great. I really believe anyone would like this program," Wolfe said.

Through the Co-Op programs, students have the opportunity to receive "real world" work experience that they cannot receive in school.

(in-vig´ -rāt´) v.
to impart strength
or vitality; stimulate

the Spartan
INVIGORATE

3c
October 24, 2003

Counting carbs, calories, points: America's weight loss obsession

Weight Watchers, Atkins, liquid diets prove to be popular quick-loss dieting methods

kelly childs
writer

In a society where so much focus is placed on looks, it is no wonder so many people are concerned about weight and body images. But with so many diets out there focused on counting calories, concentrating on fat intake, restricting followers from carbohydrates, and other plans, it is hard to distinguish which ones work and which ones hurt.

The most important issue to examine is whether high school students should even diet. It is necessary for teenagers to get the right nutrients because their bodies are still developing, so any person under the age of fifteen should consult a doctor before they start a diet. Until they are eighteen they should not do extreme diets, like Atkins, and stick to something more lenient, like Weight Watchers. Registered dietitian Maria Krach said, "Teenagers should be exercising first of all to lose weight. Being active five times a week is recommended." She also said teenagers should never consume less than 1200 calories daily if they are dieting. Their bodies need fuel, so the foods chosen should be healthy. Four packs of M & M's equal about 1200 calories, but that is not a wise way to energize their body.

One diet, called Weight Watchers, allows the dieter the freedom to eat any food they like. Each individual has a certain amount of points they should aim to eat each day. This point system is determined by the person's original weight and their goal weight. Every piece of food has a point value, so the dieter must keep track of everything they eat and make sure it adds up closely to their point allowance. In this program, thirty-five flexipoints are given each week. These can be used when there is a special occasion, such as a party or birthday. If the dieter is physically active, they receive activity points as well. These points can be substituted for food points or saved to boost the weight loss. The benefits of this diet are the flexibility and simplicity of it. There are no calories to count and no restrictions from favorite foods. The main problem seems to be how easily the rules can be bent, since they are not very strict.

"Teenagers should be exercising first of all to lose weight. Being active five times a week is recommended."

-Maria Krach
Registered Dietitian

The Atkins Approach is not a diet, but rather a nutritional philosophy, according to its creators. This "philosophy" has been embarked by over twenty million people. The success of dieters using the Atkins Approach depends on how well they can discipline themselves, because they are limited to consuming small amounts of carbohydrates, and in the form of non-starchy vegetables. The diet allows no more pastas, breads, high sugar foods, cereals, etc. for its followers. The Atkins Approach is completed in four phases. The first phase, Induction, restricts the dieters carbohydrate intake to twenty grams each day. Phase two is called Ongoing Weight Loss. The dieter should add carbs in the form of nutrient-dense and fiber-rich foods each week, so week two would be 25 grams a day, week three would be 30 grams a day, and so on. This step is done until weight loss stops. Phase three, Pre-maintenance, makes the transition from weight loss to weight maintenance. By adding 10 carbs to the daily allowance, dieters are able to maintain weight. The final phase, Lifetime Maintenance, allows the dieter to choose a variety of foods while controlling carbohydrate intake for the rest of their life.

Some fad diets, like Slim Fast, encourage the dieter to choose healthy foods for snacks and include their meal replacement bars and a piece of fruit in two of their meals. These lenient diets give the dieter more choices, while others leave little or no freedom to the dieter. A certain diet had the follower eating from different food group each day for a week. For example, on Monday the dieter could eat as much fruit as they could, on Tuesday they would eat as many vegetables as possible, and Wednesday they would consume as much meat as they could.

No matter what diet people choose, they should make sure it is sensible. If it is too restrictive or too lenient for them, they will not be successful. Most importantly, before starting a diet, teens should see a doctor to give them additional advice on living a healthy lifestyle.

Atkins Advantage

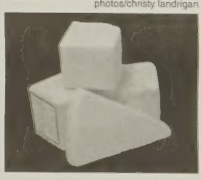
The Atkins diet inspired a line of low carb food products called "Atkins Advantage." These allow dieters to enjoy foods they would typically be unable to consume when following a low carbohydrate diet

Products include:
bread mix
milk shakes
barbecue sauce
cake mixes
ice cream
health bars

photos/christy landrigan

Pictured on the far left is a hamburger and french fries. Hamburgers and other meats are high in proteins and minerals such as iron. Left: Healthy dinner side dishes such as corn and brocolli are shown. Vegetables are essential nutrients that provide fiber and aid in digestion. Below far left: Snacks such as chips and Twinkies are pictured. Below middle: Cheese serves as a healthy snack when consumed in moderation. Below right: Orange juice provides Vitamin C.

Carbohydrate Classification



manasee atre
copy editor

As the American public becomes increasingly obese every year, the desire to lose weight and become healthier has intensified. With this zeal has come a slew of conflicting diet advice. Do cardiovascular exercise, don't do cardio exercise and do strength training instead. All fat is unhealthy, only certain types of fat are unhealthy. Avoid high cholesterol food, eat high cholesterol food but don't eat carbohydrates. Now, new dieting information about good and bad carbohydrates has been added to this potpourri of dietary advice.

The branding of carbohydrates as "good" or "bad" is done through the use of the glycemic index. The glycemic index is a scale that measures how rapidly carbohydrates are digested and enter the bloodstream as sugar. A carbohydrate with a high glycemic index enters the bloodstream quickly and is called a "high GI carb" and a carbohydrate with a low glycemic index enters the bloodstream slowly and is called a "low GI carb."

Supporters of the high and low GI carbohydrate theory say that high GI carbohydrates cause a person's insulin level to increase. This in turn leaves the person feeling hungry again very quickly. Therefore, the person will overeat. So, high GI carbohydrates are called "bad" carbohydrates, and low GI carbohydrates are called "good" carbohydrates.

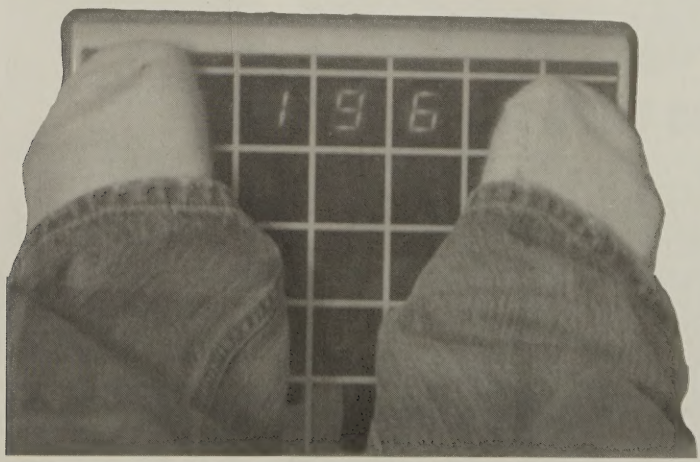
"It's become clear that not all carbohydrates are the same," Harvard nutritionist Walter Willett said to CNN. "It's not only the amount of carbohydrate you eat - it's the type that matters."

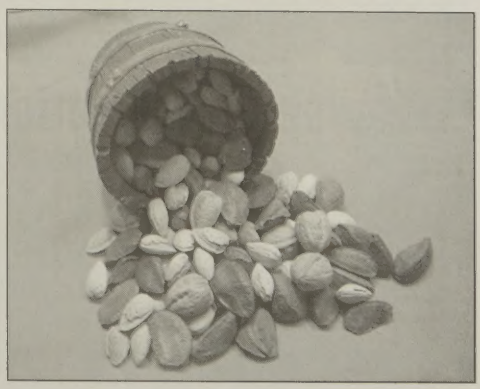
The glycemic index of more than 1000 foods has been measured. For example, porridge has a GI of 42, chips have a GI of 75, and cornflakes have a GI of 84. Some of the findings encourage people to forgo common dietary wisdom. For example, starchy foods such as refined grain products and potatoes have a high glycemic index. However, table sugar has a low glycemic index.

Supporters of low GI carbohydrate diets say that low GI carb diets do more than just control weight. For example, eating high GI carbs may increase the risk of diabetes, heart disease, and cancer. About fifteen studies now suggest that high GI diets affect glucose and insulin in ways that raise the risk of Type 2 diabetes. Also, some Harvard studies show that woman, especially obese ones, who eat high GI diets have more heart disease. In addition, a new Harvard study suggests that women who are overweight and inactive more than double their risk of different cancers, such as pancreatic cancer by eating a very high GI diet compared with a low GI diet.

However, while many health professionals and organizations, such as the World Health Organization, have endorsed the low GI diet, many, such as the American Heart Association, are still weary of it. These skeptics believe that the diet is just a ridiculous idea concocted to drum up support for high-fat, low-carbohydrate diets like the Atkins diet. They encourage eating a balanced, varied diet.

"[The high GI and low GI concept] is an artificial system of classifying foods as good and bad," University of Texas nutritionist JoAnn Carson said.





Mixed nuts and cheese, unlike many popular snack foods such as chips and Twinkies, are an excellent source of protein without the high carbohydrate count. The Atkin's diet promotes snacking on foods that are low on carbohydrates but high on protein.

the Spartana TRAVERSE

(tra -vûrs') v. To travel across, over, or through.

Horrific happenings in the Fort Wayne area

sarah kennedy
writer

Halloween, a holiday celebrated across the country, is well-known for the costumes, candy and scary stories. Here in Fort Wayne, this holiday is celebrated by several yearly thrills that open in the fall.

"The best part about Halloween is going to haunted houses and Halloween parties...it really makes Halloween fun," says Brian Robbins (10).

In the late days of September and early October, haunted houses start opening their doors to numerous thrill-seeking customers who visit for a little taste of the Halloween spirit. This year, the Black Forest, Haunted Castle, and Haunted Caves will remain open throughout the month of October.

The Black Forest is a mile-long trail of spooky thrills and unexpected terror around every bend. Finishing the trail can take anywhere from 30 minutes to an hour. The cost for entering the Black Forest is $7.00 per person. The Black Forest is open from October 1st until October 31st on all days except Monday and Tuesday. Another local attraction, the Haunted Castle is located right next to the Black Forest, a can be accessed with a combo ticket that costs $10.00 a person. The combo ticket allows entry into both the Black Forest and the Haunted Castle; separate admission for the Haunted Castle is $7.00 per person. The Haunted Castle incorporates several floors of terror, three super slides and several caskets that can be shared with a partner. Customers take a self-guided tour that takes between 35-55 minutes to complete. The Haunted Castle is open from 7:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. on the weekdays. The Haunted Castle extends its hours until 11:00 p.m. on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays.

The Haunted Cave is opening its doors for Thursday through Sunday nights during the month of October. The admission price for each person is $9.00 and the Haunted Cave makes donations to the Community Harvest Food Bank.

This year, Nightmare on Wells Street is open October 16th, 17th, October 23rd, 24th, and October 26th through the 31st. Nightmare on Wells Street has fifteen rooms of screaming-fun and is the newest haunted house in Fort Wayne. It is rumored that this site was built on Indian burial grounds and is believed to be haunted. This haunted house is also home to a Halloween store that sells party supplies. Nightmare on Wells Street is located at 4201 North Wells Street behind the Fort Wayne Toyota dealership on Coliseum Boulevard and Northrop.

Zoo'per Halloween is going to be open on October 25th, starting at 10:00 a.m. A Halloween party will be held from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Teenagers and adults must pay $3.00 for Zoo'per Halloween. Discounted admissions are available during the hours of the party from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. This event is being held at the Fort Wayne Zoo, and all proceeds from this event benefit animal residents of Black Pine Animal Park. This event will provide refreshments, treats, lighted animal exhibits and a gift shop.

"I have a lot of fun carving pumpkins during Halloween, it was always great dressing up for trick-or-treating," said Jenn Bowers(10)

photos/jack rozman

The Black Forest is a mile long trail with unexpected adventures. Admission prices for entering the Black Forest are $7.00 per person. The Black Forest is open in October from Wednesday to Sunday.

photos/colin knapp

Halloween celebrations vary worldwide

evan childers
writer

As autumn sets in around the country, the crisp air and falling leaves are a reminder that Halloween is coming. Halloween is that time of the year where costumed children run around in search of candy, where pumpkin pie and jack-o-lanterns are in abundance. It's a time we can all take a break and participate in the festivities.

Halloween takes place on October 31 every year. The thirty-first is the eve of All Saints Day, a holy day in the Catholic and Anglican churches. Halloween is celebrated primarily in North America and Western Europe, and festivities customarily involve costumes, parties, and trick-or-treating. Trick-or-treating involves dressing up as various creatures and collecting treats.

There are other traditions around the world very similar to America's observance of Halloween. In Mexico, El Dia De Los Muertos, or "The Day of the Dead" is similar to Halloween. However, it instead coincides with the Catholic Holiday "All Souls Day," which falls on November 2. In England "Guy Fawkes Day" on November 5 has largely replaced Halloween. It is a patriotic occasion, in which children light bonfires and burn effigies of Guy Fawkes who attempted to blow up the English Parliament Building in 1605.

Halloween is typically associated with death, and the supernatural. Vampires, werewolves, zombies, and all manner of fantastic creatures are represented on this holiday. The jack-o-lantern, which is a hollowed out pumpkin with a carved face that is lit from the inside by a candle, is the staple Halloween decoration. The name and idea of the jack-o-lantern are derived from British folk tales, about a man named Jack O'Lantern. Legend has it that O'Lantern was barred from both heaven and hell and condemned to wander the earth with his lantern.

The idea of Halloween originated with the ancient peoples of Europe who would celebrate the end of the harvest season. Most important of these ancient influences came from the Celtic holiday of Samhain. The Celts were tribal people who occupied most of Central and Western Europe in the first millennium B.C. Samhain marked the end of the old year and the beginning of the next. It began on sundown of the thirty-first of October, and passed into the following day. According to Druidism, the religion of the ancient Celts, the souls of those who had died in the preceding year wandered the earth again on Samhain. Celts warded off these spirits with food, drink, and by offering both human and animal sacrifices to various deities. Local observances of these traditions were passed down through the ages, and partially incorporated into the Catholic Church under the idea of All Saint's Day. Many medieval superstitions and ancient pagan mythological beings were incorporated into the concept of Halloween. These ideas blended into the holiday which is celebrated today.

Halloween awareness

javed sayed
designer

Although trick-or-treating can be a lot of fun and games, one must consider dangers and safety tips before prancing around the neighborhood in a costume.

One of the most dangerous aspects of Halloween is the risk of getting hit by traffic. According to CNN.com about four times as many pedestrians are killed on Halloween than on any other day. In order to avoid such a calamity, it is very important to look on both sides of the street and listen for cars before crossing the street.

It is good to go trick or treating with a group

"I love going around to people's houses and getting candy from them. I always play it safe and carry a flashlight with me, because it is usually dark. I also remember to never eat candy from strangers, because I know there are some sick people out there who poison candy"

-Jon Kopecky (10)

or an adult to help insure the safety of all. According to the Great Neck Record community newspaper it can be extremely dangerous to go trick-or-treating alone, since criminals prefer to attack when victims are alone.

"Traveling in groups really provides security on Halloween," Megan Culbertson (10) said. "Plus you get to have fun with your friends."

Although Halloween is a symbol of candy consumption and distribution, it is beneficial to learn which candy is safe to eat. According to CNN.com, it is best to only eat sealed candy.

"Halloween is my favorite time of the year," Jon Kopecky (10) said. "I love going around to people's houses and getting candy from them. I always play it safe and carry a flashlight with me, because it is usually dark. I also remember to never eat candy from strangers, because I know there are some sick people out there who poison candy."

Even though Halloween is a night filled with fun and fantasy, a lack of precautions and safety measures can prove to be extremely costly.

Sam and Sarah Zurawski display their costumes for Halloween. Trick-or-treating will take place from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Friday, October 31.

(ə-măl'gə-māt') v.
to mix so as to make a unified whole; blend

the Spartana
AMALGAMATE

5c
October 24, 2003

Red Star Tavern rates highly

josh zurawski
sports and opinions editor

logan braman
designer

tyler keena
writer

After our visit to the more casual, wing-serving, and male-oriented restaurants (Crazy Al's Buffalo Wings and Ribs, and Buckets Pub & Grub), we decided to step it up a notch this month and try out the newest restaurant in Jefferson Pointe - Red Star Tavern.

As we entered the restaurant, we immediately realized that "the Tavern" seems to be a little more suave than your average tavern. There are dimly lit, modern chandeliers that set the mood of a classy, "take-your-prom-date-here" restaurant.

After entering, we were immediately seated by the hostess, and greeted by our server. We ordered drinks (cokes and raspberry tea) and were given menus.

At first glance, the menu seemed to be quite expensive for your everyday restaurant. However, we soon realized that the burgers and sandwiches on the menu are still reasonably priced, while the other "tavern favorites" seem to be more pricey. However, these items include steaks and other high-class meals like "Cajun U Peel 'Em Shrimp," so it's understandable that these items are going to lighten the wallet a little more than your average meal.

When the waitress revisited our table, we ordered starters of quesadillas and chips and salsa. These were soon brought to our table, and we were pleasantly surprised by the overall caliber of the two appetizers.

After quickly consuming our starters, we ordered our entrees, which included the Red Star Cheddar (burger) and the pulled-pork sandwich, which arrived at our table soon after. The entrees were all very delicious and served in portions large enough to fill even the largest stomachs.

"The Tavern," in our opinions, was a good restaurant and is very flexible -- it would be great for just about any occasion, both casual and formal. The service was prompt and friendly, making our evening much more enjoyable. The food, both starters and entrees, was scrumptious. The atmosphere was modern, yet classy, making this restaurant a good fit for any night of the week.

Red Star Tavern, located near Rave Motion Pictures at Jefferson Pointe, resembles a more sophisticated and elegant version of your neighborhood Applebee's. We would highly recommend this restaurant to anyone looking for a nice, sit-down restaurant with tasteful food, good service, and a sophisticated atmosphere.

Red Start Tavern

Service: The overall service was excellent. Our waitress was friendly and visited our table often.

Atmosphere: The atmosphere was modern yet great for just about any occasion, formal or informal. A great place to take a date.

Food: The food was wonderful and filling. The quality of the food was fairly good for the price. I left feeling satisfied.

YMCA eliminates exercise ennui

New "Y" offers a positive facility for the community

kelly childs
writer

Upon entering the new YMCA facility on Aboite Center Road, I immediately had the desire to take advantage of its many amenities. As soon as I entered the building I saw to my left the workout room where rows upon rows of cardio and weight training machines are lined up. To my right the pool was visible with that awesome slide shooting into it. Straight ahead I saw the rock climbing wall waiting for me to climb it.

No matter what your interest is, you will find something to do at the new Y. That is one of the great things about it. With two full size gymnasium courts, members can choose from playing basketball, volleyball, or shuffle board. The track circling above the courts can be used for running, jogging, or walking. Members can swim laps in the pool or relax in the whirlpool. There is also a sauna and steam room to take advantage of. Members can take a variety of aerobics classes in the aerobics room or a variety of dance classes in the dance room. In the workout room, they can do anything from pedaling on a BFX bike to bench pressing in the adjacent weight lifting room.

One of the great features of this new YMCA is the presence of windows in every room. Natural light comes through in every area, really brightening the place up. Other Y's I have been to seem to be very dark, which does not inspire me to work out. Not only are there windows on the outside walls of the building, but there are also windows for viewing the room from the hallway. The two gyms, the dance room, the workout room and the pool all have these viewing windows giving spectators the advantage of seeing what happens in each room.

Another unique characteristic of this new Y is little cafe towards the front. Ground Level Coffee has a stand offering juices and coffee for the members. They can relax at the bar or sit down with their drink at one of the table and chairs positioned in front of the bar. Behind this cafe is another new addition, a "pool hall". Here members can challenge each other to a game of air hockey, foozeball, or pool on one of the two pool tables.

Like many situations in life, the little things are what make the new Y great. For instance, the pool has zero depth and slopes down from there. This means there are no stairs into the pool, making it handicap accessible. The new Y also seems very concerned about keeping things clean. The helmets for rock climbing are sprayed with Lysol after use and the machines are wiped down and sterilized after every use as well. Another benefit, for the women at least, are the hair dryers that are in the locker, which are very convenient. I do not have to squat below the hand dryers to dry my hair anymore.

By far, though, one of the best things about the new Y is its convenience. It is open from five AM to ten PM everyday. With such long hours, everybody can find time to go, like before or after work. It is especially easy to go before or after school, because it is located so close to school.

With the new Y now open, I am ready to take full advantage of its multiple facilities, its openness, its convenience and its little details that make it great.

Old to new

Columnist Kasey Butcher reviews horror films for Halloween festivities

kasey butcher
associate news editor

Now that I'm "too old" to go Trick-or-Treating, Halloween means one thing to me (other than stealing my brother's candy)- Turner Classic Movies' marathon of classic horror flicks. For me the horror movie is more than just an asinine form of entertainment. There's a certain art to creating a really good, or really bad scary movie.

The horror genre has been around since the beginning of the motion picture. The first horror movies were about vampires and include *Vampyr* (1932), a silent French-import, *London After Midnight* (1927), and most notably *Nosferatu* (1922). Nosferatu is regarded as one of the spookiest vampire movies of all time, even if it did get director F.W. Murnau in legal trouble for the movie's hard to ignore similarities to Bram Stoker's Dracula. Although this movie is, well, ancient and silent, it is still very frightening. The vampire, played by Max Schreck, gives me chills. Nosferatu is truly a masterpiece.

As "talkies" started to be introduced, horror had a new asset, an audible scream. The vampire movies were abandoned and the era of the monster movie was ushered in. "B" movies like *Frankenstein* (1931), *King Kong* (1933), *The Thing from Another World* (1951), and *The Creature from the Black Lagoon* (1954) are among the classic horror movies that emerged during this time. My favorite would have to be *The Creature from the Black Lagoon* which is just one of those movies that is so bad it's funny. This feature borrows stylistically from *King Kong* and is based upon a story that director William Allen heard from cinematographer Gabrielle Figorora. *The Creature* focuses on a half-man half-amphibian in the Amazon who falls for a beautiful scientist. While this movie does make me laugh, it also maintains an unexpected amount of suspense.

The fifties, however, supplied horror with more than just monsters. It brought forth two horror legends. Vincent Price (1911-1993) was a serious actor to begin with, even nabbing a role in *The Ten Commandments*, but in the 1950's he played coolly evil characters in movies like *House of Wax* (1953) and *House on Haunted Hill* (1958). Price quickly became the "King of Terror" and later did the rap section for Michael Jackson's *Thriller*.

How could I do a history of horror without mentioning Alfred Hitchcock (1899-1980) whose mission in life was "to simply scare the hell out of people?" The man's name is synonymous with terror and suspense. Hitchcock was the first person in the industry to make smart scary movies--films that were carefully constructed and could possibly happen. His realism, as opposed to fantasy monsters and ghosts, created a new form of terror for audiences in the 1950's and 60's. Hitchcock's movies include *Rear Window* (1954), *The Birds* (1963), and most notably, *Psycho* (1960). A woman complained to Hitchcock that the shower scene from *Psycho* scared her daughter so badly that she refused to bathe. Hitchcock simply replied "Then Madam I suggest you have her dry cleaned." Hitchcock is known best for his unique style which many directors try to emulate and for numerous cameos in his movies. A common game for Hitchcock fans is "Find Alfred." He can be seen, for example, walking dogs in *The Birds*. Hitchcock received the American Film Institute Lifetime Achievement Award in 1979 and set the stage for the likes of Stephen King and M. Night Shyamalan.

The 1970's and 80's were dominated by a new type of horror movie, the "Slasher". Classic characters like Michael Myers, the man who will never run, but will always catch you, Jason Vorhees, the world's most evil mama's boy, and Freddy Kreuger, the man who never cuts his fingernails, were born. Huge movie franchises also were created including eight *Halloween* (1978) movies, ten *Friday the Thirteenth* (1980) movies and seven *Nightmare on Elm Street* (1984) movies. While slasher movies have never been regarded as brilliant, they are entertaining and have enough nudity to keep teenage boys shelling out the ticket money.

Hoaky slasher movies weren't the only scary movies to grace the screen in the 70's and 80's. One of the most famous horror films, *The Exorcist*, scarred the living daylights out of audiences in 1973, and movies based upon Stephen King's books raked in the dough as well. These movies included *Carrie* (1976), *The Shining* (1980), *Cujo* (1983), and, my personal favorite, *Christine* (1983), a movie about a boy who falls in love with his evil, possessed car.

The 1990's brought the slasher movie back with a fresh look through Wes Craven's *Scream* (1996), *Scream 2* (1997), and *Scream 3* (2000). In a way, the *Scream* trilogy makes fun of itself, providing both humor and fright in a delightful mix. Although the other two installments were rather lame, Scream is one of my favorite scary movies ever.

Most recently, the horror film has taken a new twist. Scary movies have become more complicated. M. Night Shyamalan, writer/director of *The Sixth Sense* (1999) and *Signs* (2002) brings an intellectual aspect to his frightening films. *The Ring* (2002) scared me so badly that I couldn't close my eyes until two in the morning.

Although the topic is debatable, in my opinion *Psycho* is the best horror movie of all time. It's beautifully crafted and is Hitchcock at his very best. Not that it matters, but it was also the first movie to get a toilet past the censors. This movie isn't really scary today, but still maintains a reputation for fear even after forty-plus years.

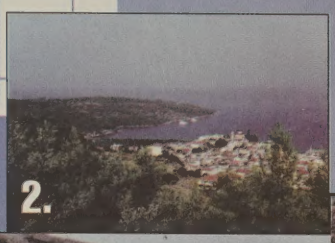
photo/courtesy kasey butcher

Movie review columnist Kasey Butcher poses next to Alfred Hitchcock in Hollywood, CA.

the Spartan
ADVANTAGEOUS

(ad van-taj s)
adj. affording benefit or gain; useful

1.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photos/ courtesy greg karidas

Trip to Greece brings staffer, Greg Karidas, closer to home

greg karidas
business manager

In arguably the most beautiful region of the world is one of the oldest civilizations. Now modernized, the country of Greece, still holds to glory its ancestral ways, while incorporating the ideals of the modern world. From villages with a few people and a single donkey, to heavily populated cities such as Athens, the people of Greece share a common purpose in life to succeed in whatever they may do, but still know how to enjoy life.

The history of Greece has been a long one. It is consider to be one of the earliest civilizations, and oldest countries. Greece celebrates its independence from the Ottoman Empire every year on March 25th. The parliamentary republic-run country is made up of 98% Greek Orthodox Greeks. There is very little cultural diversity throughout the country.

Greece as a country is no bigger than the state of Alabama. It is located in southern Europe, and is bordered by the Aegean Sea, Ionian Sea, and Mediterranean Sea. Countries that border Greece include Albania, Bulgaria, Turkey, and the Former Yugolav Republic of Macedonia. The country has around 13,676 km of coastline. The regions of Greece can be separated into a few geographic areas. To the north, where the temperature usually is between fifty and seventy degrees, lies the mountainous area of Kastoria. This areas mountains are carved with villages. The most southern parts of Greece consist of a plethora of islands. Finally, the inland incorporates most of heavily populated cities. Cities that include the capital city of Athens, and the city where much of my father's side of the family is from Pireas.

The houses in the inner cities look more like duplex apartments, however, the entire building is many times owned by a single family, and often occupied by that family. However, in less populated areas people live in more farm style houses, or houses that are built above their respective stores or cafes.

Much of Greece consists of small family owned shops, rather than the big business that makes up the United States. For example, in Pireas, there is a small grocery store owned by a family that everyone in the area knows about and goes to. My grandfather (Papou) goes to the store and gets fresh fruit, and bread everyday before lunch, or breakfast. Also, in Kastoria, where my mother's side of the family is from, people shop in a similar fashion. My Uncle (Theo) Trifo owns a small cafe that the same people come in a discuss politics, and eat everyday. He also bakes cakes for the local funerals, and weddings. Many of the people in Greece will close their shops around two o'clock in the afternoon, and go home to take a nap for a few hours before they get up and go to the beach till eight, or nine o'clock at night. Once they return from the beach they eat their dinner, which more often than not is homemade. After eating many times the younger generation will go out to the dance clubs, or cyber cafes, which are about the only things still open at this time of night. The weekends, on the other hand, usually consist of a big lunch, an afternoon at the beach, and a night at the clubs.

Education in Greece is very important, in fact my cousin Maro, who is sixteen has an extremely rigorous and difficult school day. However, if you ask her she does not think anything of it. She goes to school all day until around four, then comes home to grab a bite to eat, and turns around and goes back to school at five for two more hours of class to learn the English language. All the schooling and they don't teach kids how to drive. Most families in Greece have one car, if that, and it is always a small European or Japanese car. There are absolutely no American cars, or SUV's in Europe to be found. In fact, they use the E-Class luxurious Mercedes-Benz as their taxies in Greece. The school in Pireas is typical of most schools in Greece. It makes up the source of activity for most younger kids to play sports, and socialize with their friends. The school sits in the middle of the city, and is surrounded by a track, soccer field, and basketball courts. Most of the time the school grounds and the park around it are packed with kids.

Greece has made news most notably of late regarding the 2004 Olympics. Anytime the Olympics come back to Greece, the place it was founded, the people of Greece become extra ecstatic. The country is lacking in housing for the athletes, and is working diligently to prepare for the Olympic games. Although housing may be an issue, Greece has found a way around it by docking large boats in the port city of Pireas for athletes and visitors to stay.

Greece has an older, but unique civilization that has conformed to the modern way. The Greek way will always stand in the minds of the Greek people. If anyone is interested in the Greek way, but does not want to pay a plane ticket to go over to Greece "My Big Fat Greek Wedding" sums up "the Greek way."

Scenes from Greece: 1. The village Mavrohorion, in Kastoria, is carved between the mountains of northern Greece. In English, Mavrohorion translates into "Black Village." 2. Surrounding Greece is 13,676 km of shoreline such as the one shown in the photo. 3. The Korinthos Canal runs through the center of Greece, providing a port for ships and a path into the Aegean. 4. The Parthenon is one of the most symbolic structures in Greek history. It has been carefully renovated to maintain its original structure. 5. Smaller ruins, such as this photo of Souno, surround the Parthenon. Handmade columns were a common structure used in Greek architecture. 6. The Aegean Sea can be viewed from the top of nearby cliffs. 7. An ancient wall overlooks a mountain range near Mount Olympus. 8. Various temples were used in Ancient Greece as religious grounds. Now these ruins are popular tourists attractions.

the SPARTANA

Homestead High School 4310 Homestead Rd Fort Wayne, IN 46814

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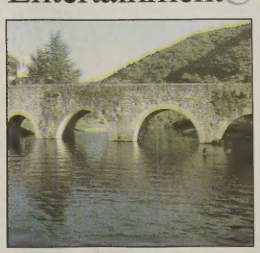


Discovering Spain

page 6c

Spartan Alliance snags second

evan childers
writer

Another grueling band season is over. The Spartans returned victoriously from the State band competition in Indianapolis. Under the leadership of directors Brad Watkins and Steven Barber, Homestead ended the year with an impressive second place finish at the RCA dome.

"We feel great," drum major Mary Eckert (12) said about finishing second. "We had a great time in the RCA dome, and we feel that we just did awesome."

Homestead has not placed second since 1998. This year, Homestead's three-year streak of fourth place finishes in the state competition came to an end. Avon High School edged out the Spartans for first place in Class A competition.

"Second was just as good as first, especially since first place was taken by Avon," tenor saxophone player Greg Hall (12) said. "We had no grudges against them [Avon], since they've never competed against us. [Second place] made no difference to me, or to anyone else I know."

In another victory of sorts, the Spartans defeated their longtime rival Carmel High School, which placed fifth. Last year, Carmel placed first in Class A competition. This year, however, the Homestead band did not see the Marching Greyhounds in competition prior to State Finals.

"When we finish our performance and the crowd goes crazy, it's all worth it." Hall said. "You don't care how much you worked. And all the friendships and people you meet through band make it worth it."

Although one might expect band members to feel a twinge of disappointment about the second place finish, most band members are enthusiastic and pleased.

"There was no disappointment at all." Mary Eckert said. "We were out there to do our best, and placing was secondhand to doing our best. We were ecstatic about the finish and felt that we did all that we could.

Hall believes that the results of State were a good ending to his senior band season.

"We also beat every defending state champion who has beat us in the past four years.... it's the best way to finish my senior year." Hall said.

For the senior band members of the Spartan Alliance Marching Band, the second place finish is a special end to their band experience at Homestead. Achieving a second place after three years is closure to their years of hard work.

"Band is very special to me," Eckert said. "All my friends are in band, and we're just like a big family. In band I've learned things that I couldn't learn anywhere else. It's a very special experience."

The preparation leading up to the state competition was demanding. Homestead's members attended a 3-week training camp during the summer to prepare them for the approaching season. During the school year, members practiced from seventh period until 5:00 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, and they practiced from 6:00 pm-8:30 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Also, the band played at football games after practice on Fridays. Members then woke up at 6:00 am the following morning in order to prepare for Saturday night competitions. All of the hard work paid off, however. In addition to the second place finish at State, the band won regionals and most of the other local competitions.

photos / jack rozman

Above right: Alex Lineback (12) of the drumline jumps during the Spartan Alliance's state meet. The drumline jumps on and around trampolines for part of the marching band's performed their show "Gravity" at the state level. The marching band performed Right: Ashley Cronk (12), Colleen Reimer (12), and Heather Ramsey (12) lead the Spartan Alliance Marching Band out of the RCA Dome in Indianapolis after their performance. The band placed second of ten in their division, improving on their place of fourth from last year.

Superintendent wins prestigious award

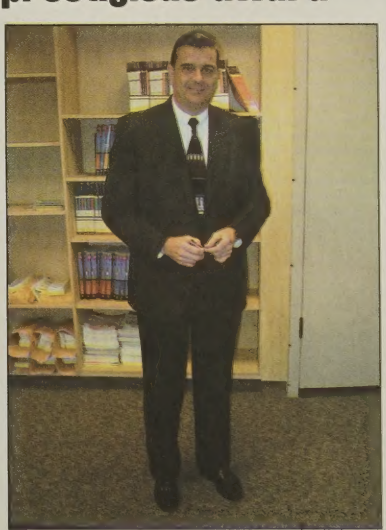


photo / jack rozman

Dr. Brian Smith was named the Northeast Indiana District II Superintendent of the Year by the Indiana Association of Public School Superintendents. The awarded was presented to Smith on October 10th, 2003.

School referendum passes

zafar sayed
news editor

In a time when many Indiana school systems are strapped for cash, SACS has finally found a way to fight back. On November 4th, the district passed a referendum in a vote of 2608 to 1225. The referendum will help reallocate additional funds to the district's resources and hopefully allow the implementation of new education plans.

Much of the area administration was in strong favor of the referendum. District Superintendent Brian Smith, in particular, was very happy about the results of the vote.

"We're going to follow through on everything we said," Smith said in *The Journal Gazette*. "This is a win-win for students and parents and the community...We are adamant, taxes will remain the same. The referendum will not increase them."

The district will use most of the $1.6 million referendum money during the current school year. The money will be used to recruit new teachers, reduce class sizes, and restore the Homestead Resource Center, among other initiatives.

REFERENDUM

-The referendum will permit the school board to make decisions regarding class size and new faculty members.

-The district will begin to receive money for new programs at the beginning the 2005-2006 school year.

-Due to a 2002 school tax referendum bill, voters in the community can be sure that reallocated funds will remain under local control.

-The Capital Projects Funds will be reduced by an amount near 1.5 million dollars.

-The referendum will stay in effect for seven calendar years before being voted on again.

-The referendum ballot stated that if the school were to impose a tax increase, by law it could not be more than $.10 per $100 of assessed property value.

the Spartana
PITHY
(pĭth´e) adj. concisely meaningful

Spartan Briefs

Semi-formal

This year's Semi-formal theme is from the 1930s. The theme is "All that Jazz." The dance will be on December 6, at the Memorial Coliseum, from 7:30pm to 11:45 pm. Activities will include dancing, a swing-dance contest, and a best dressed contest. Tickets are $18 for singles and $18 for couples.

Yearbook Arrival

Yearbooks are here! If you have not yet picked up your yearbook, they can be picked up in room 610. You must present a student ID to receive a yearbook. In addition to the yearbook, a yearbook magazine that includes all the group and club photos and a CD-rom that includes the 2002-2003 Spartana issues will be available after December 1st.

Field Trip

Mr. Koczergo and Mrs. Ricker's classes will be going to see Lord of the Rings: Return of the King on December 16 or 17. Last year, the classes were able to see the second Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers, before the release date at Rave Motion Pictures. However, due to new management at Rave, classes may not be able to see the picture before the official release date of December 17.

Adopt-A-Family

Student Government members will be collecting money, clothes, or food items during first period classes for the Adopt-A-Family fund raiser. Student Government members presented first period classes with information about the fund raiser. Fund raising gifts should be brought in to school by November 24. Key Club is also be collecting items for Adopt-A-Family.

Referendum Update

The vote for the referendum was held on November 4. It was approved by a vote of 2608 to 1225 in the election. The district will use most of the $1.6 million referendum money during the current school year. The money will be used to recruit new teachers, reduce class sizes, and restore the Homestead Resource Center, among other initiatives.

Election Results

The chance for Fort Wayne to have its first woman mayor was unsuccessful as Graham Richard defeated Linda Buskirk in the mayoral race on November 4. Richard won the election 27,251 to 19,701 votes, with a 58 percent share of the vote. Buskirk lost the last mayoral race by less than 200 votes.

Jorgenson YMCA

The Jorgenson Family YMCA has new hours on Saturday. Instead of the hours of 8:00am to 6:00pm, the new YMCA is open from 6:00am to 8:00 pm. On the other days of the week, the YMCA's hours of operation are as follows: Monday-Friday: 6:00am to 9:00pm, Saturday: 8:00am to 6:00pm, and Sunday: 12:00pm to 6:00pm.

California Wildfires

The most destructive wildfires in history are still burning in California. After destroying more than 567,000 acres, about 890 square miles, the wildfires have left at least 16 people dead and destroyed more than 1,600 homes.

Glenbrook Square

On November 23, Glenbrook Square will stay open from 5-9pm for a late night shopping event. Customers with tickets will be able to receive special sales at selected stores throughout the entire mall. Tickets for "Light Up The Night" are just $5 and can be purchased throughout the mall before the event.

Rave Theater

Rave Motion Pictures has increased their prices on tickets. The ticket prices for all show times have increased by 50 cents. Rave Motion Pictures is located in Jefferson Point, and it shows first-run movies.

A.P. Scholar Awards

The College Board named forty-nine Homestead Students AP Scholars. This award is based on the students' achievement on past AP exams. Only about fourteen percent of the students who took the exams in May 2003 received this distinction. Fifteen students qualified as AP Scholars with Distinction, thirteen students were named AP Scholars with Honor, and twenty-one students were named AP Scholars. Students can receive college course credit and/or advanced placement for high scores on AP exams. The AP exam is a three hour exam that consists of multiple choice and essay sections. Homestead offers sixteen AP courses, including AP Chemistry, AP English Language and Composition, and AP Calculus.

Calendar

11.27 Thanksgiving break begins. 12.3 Winter Scenes performed. 12.4 The band, orchestra, and choir perform the Holiday Concert. 12.6 Semi-formal dance takes place. 12.22 Winter vacation starts.

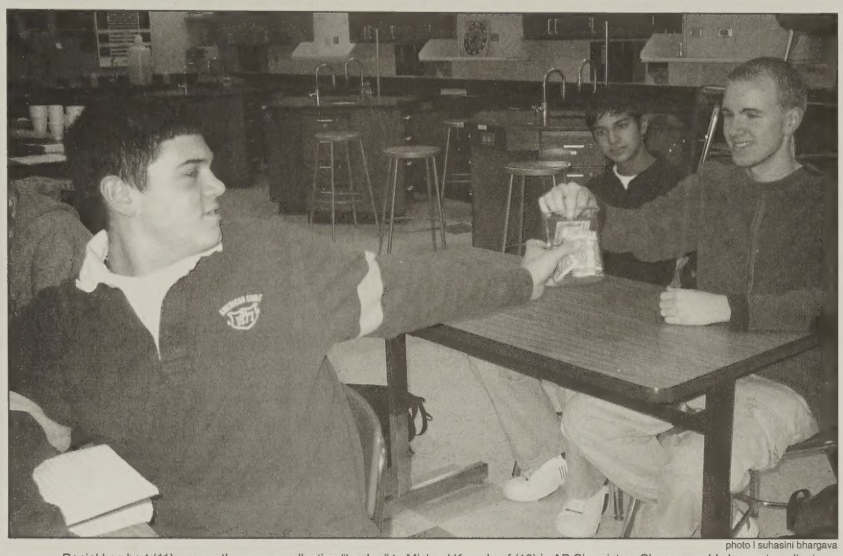


photo | suhasini bhargava

Daniel Lambert (11) passes the money collection "beaker" to Micheal Krauskopf (12) in AP Chemistry. Classes could choose to collect money or purchase items for their adopted family. Adopt-A-Family money and item collection ends on Monday.

Generous Giving

Student government organizes Adopt-A-Family project

suhasini bhargava
associate entertainment editor

Working in conjunction with Key Club to provide a pleasant Christmas for the less fortunate, student government encourages participation in the Adopt-a-Family project.

Continually participating in Adopt-a-Family for more than ten years, student government engages in this charity program to help families and senior citizens by providing holiday-season necessitates. Student government began working on the project as early as September when chairpersons of Adopt-a-Family project decided to adopt four small families and eight senior citizens. Student government was provided with a list of family members, their ages, and the items that the families desired.

"Basically what the organization does is [that it] sends you information about the family or senior citizen such as the name, the age and any particular items that family or person wants," Kait Stevens (12) said. "Sometimes people request for certain items."

This year, student government members were responsible for purchasing items and collecting money for one of the four families, Key Club was responsible for another, the administrators aided with a third, and the fourth family was assigned to the English department. In addition, student government organized the school-wide charity project. All other departments were assigned a senior citizen. Additionally, each first period class was asked to either bring in a specific item or collect a certain amount of money. Most students had to donate approximately a dollar to meet the minimum requirement for each classroom. With the aid of the students and staff, student government was able to provide each family member and senior citizen with food, toiletries, cleaning supplies, a new outfit, and a special gift.

"Everybody usually contributes," Stevens said. "Each person in every class has to bring in about a dollar and usually does, because most of the kids are giving."

This year, student government's goal for Adopt-a-Family is to contribute more than the minimum requirement.

> *"We touch a lot of lives...We're southwest and the majority of the kids are well off so it's nice to give back to the community"*
>
> *-Kait Stevens (12)*

"It would be great if every kid could bring in a dollar and even go beyond that," Stevens said. "It would be awesome if everybody could go beyond and provide them with a really special Christmas."

In the past, student government has received touching thank-you notes for their services. Often, the efforts of the students and staff have been noticed and appreciated.

"We touch a lot of lives," Stevens said. "A woman wrote to the school saying thank you for the cardigan because it was her first new shirt since ten years ago. It just made her day. We definitely make a difference."

Once the money has been collected, student government members will purchase necessary items and wrap gifts for the families and senior citizens. Families and seniors have requested different items--anywhere from Disney movies and bikes to gardening tools and coats. Student government will deliver gifts at previously designated locations. Student government members do not meet the people for whom they purchase gifts.

"We call Meijer and we go on one gigantic shopping trip," Stevens said. "We have a huge wrapping get-together, and we wrap everything and we label it. Then we put presents in one box and a few of us deliver it. We're not in contact with the people whom we give to."

As the holiday season approaches, members of student government help organize the Adopt-a-Family project. They organize the project in order to provide a Christmas for the less privileged in the community.

"We're southwest and the majority of the kids are well off so it's nice to give back to the community," Stevens said.

Cadet teachers gain future work experience

katie corson
writer

Cadet teaching is one of many classes at Homestead that gives students an opportunity to experience an environment similar to that which they are interested in studying in college.

The cadet teaching class, which is a semester long, is offered to juniors and seniors that are interested in an education major in college. The class is taught by Mrs. Shane.

Each student is assigned to a class in a nearby elementary or middle school where they do their actual cadet teaching. There, they are given the chance to present lessons to a class of children, as well as see how actual teachers handle real classroom situations. Students also sometimes work with students in that class that may require any extra help.

"I have learned many teaching techniques and I get a chance to put what I learn from the supervising teacher into practice," Liz Witte (12) said.

The class also meets at Homestead every Friday. This is when the students are able to discuss issues that deal with teaching, as well as talk about what they experienced or encountered during the week.

"I have enjoyed working with the children a lot. They brighten up your day so much," said Witte.

Cadet teaching is suggested to any student that is interested, or even just thinking about, education as a college major. There are no prerequisites for the class, though students must be either juniors or seniors.

Everything students need to know in order to cadet teach is taught to them during the class.

"I have learned how to handle children in many different situations. I know how to handle children when they act out, as well as how to clearly present a lesson to a class and make it fun for them," said Witte. "I can't think of anything that I dislike about the class; I really enjoy it."

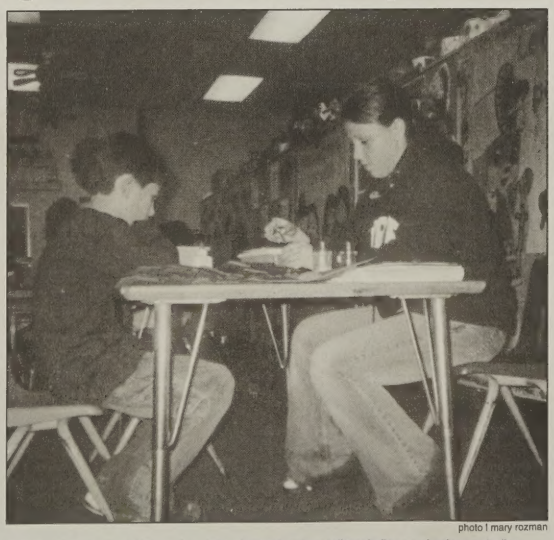


photo | mary rozman

Jessica Ford (12) works with a student in Miss Hollman's first grade class at Indian Meadows Elementary School. Cadet teachers worked at various schools during third or fourth period Monday through Thursday. Fridays were spent in the classroom with Mrs. Shane. Cadet teaching allowed students looking toward a career in teaching to get a taste for the job as well as classroom experience.

(ə-prīz´d)v. to give notice to; inform

the Spartan APPRISED

3a

November 21, 2003

Improved Career Resource Center in Student Services

Counselor Diane Rice encourages students to use the Career Resource Center to prepare themselves for the future

rohith iyer
associate copy editor

For many students, life after high school is a big concern. However with the additions to the Career Resource Center in Student Services, students have access to the all the information they need to make decisions about their career and college futures.

In addition to its extensive information on various colleges and majors, the Career Resource Center also provides information to students who are interested in joining the military or the work place immediately after high school. Students can find tips on the skills needed in writing a resume and job interviewing.

The Career Resource Center focuses on four areas: choosing a career, planning an educational program that prepares the students for that career, getting accepted into that educational program, and paying for the education.

The Career Resource Center offers at least twelve different types of magazines that students can take for free. The center also publishes using the websites that are recommended by the Indiana department of education.

In the resource center, students can find information on financial aid, college guides, career/major information, applications for Indiana colleges, as well as a parent center that parents of students can access .

This year, a new system was developed for student use of the resource center. Now if students want to use the resource center, they must get a pass signed by a teacher, which states what the students plans to research. The new system was implemented in hopes that students will take advantage of the resource center.

Counselor Diane Rice has kept the Career Resource Center up to par, and regularly updates the resource center with new information. She applied for a grant from the Olin B. and Desta Schwab Foundation, which focuses on career development. The foundation, along with Summit Vocational Technical Education, purchased the new computers for the resource center.

In addition to the computers, new tables, stools, and reading chairs were bought for the resource center. This was paid for by a capital improvement grant paid for by the district.

Beginning December 1, 2003, the Career Resource Center will be initiating a weekly raffle. There will be a raffle question every Monday morning on the announcements, and all students are eligible to answer the question. Questionnaires can be found in the Career Resource Center, and they can be placed in a provided jar. On the following Monday, the winner of the raffle will be announced, and Student Services will contact them to give them their prize. Raffle prizes will include gift certificates to Starbucks, Best Buy, and Barnes and Noble.

"Everything you need to plan your life is here at Homestead in the resource center," Rice said. "I think its important for students to take advantage of the resources here."

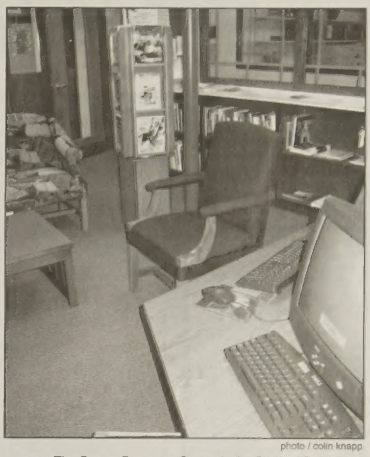


photo / colin knapp

The Career Resource Center in the Student Services room has improved from last year by adding new furniture.

Academic Decathlon prepares for District

manasee atre
copy editor

As the school year progresses into the winter months, a number of school clubs and activities are becoming more active. Some of these clubs, such as Students Against Destructive Decisions and Key Club, provide students with a diversion from the academic life of high school. However, one activity, Academic Decathlon, offers students academic enrichment.

Academic Decathlon is a club in which students compete among each other in the areas of English, math, science, social studies, art, and music. Students are also required to give prepared and impromptu speeches and to complete an interview.

"Decathlon tests a potpourri of different topics," Academic Decathlon member Serena Dollive (12) said. "It allows us to really learn about many different subjects."

The nine categories of Decathlon are tied together by a theme, "The Lewis and Clark Expedition."

"Every year, all of the subjects in Decathlon are related to a theme," Dollive said. "The theme means that all of the subjects cover material relating to the Lewis and Clark expedition or relating to the time period of the Lewis and Clark Expedition. For example, in the social studies category, we are studying the Lewis and Clark expedition. Also, the book we have to read for English, Willa Cather's Death Comes to the Archbishop, takes place in the early 1800's."

In order to become a member of the Academic Decathlon Team, students must study the Academic Decathlon study guide and then take a qualifying test in October. The Decathlon team accepts a total of nine members, with three members each on an A team, a B team, and a C team. These teams are based on the cumulative grade point averages of there members. This year, the A team members are Dollive, Abhinav Vemula (10), and Javed Sayed (10). The members of the B team are Rachel Hughes (12), Andrea Sorenson (10), and Sarah Sorenson (12). The members of the C team are Jeff Boskovich (11), Alec Smith (11), and Katie Weeks (12).

"In Decathlon, we have to do a lot of work. But, it's fun, too. I enjoy hanging out around the people on the team and competing in the competitions."

Serena Dollive (12)

Many students start preparing for the Decathlon qualifying test in the summer.

"A couple of us met over the summer to prepare for the upcoming year," Dollive said. "We studied information in the study binder."

The team meets two to three times per week in order to prepare for the District competition, which will be held on January 24, 2004. If the team does well at District, they can qualify for State.

"Every practice, we focus on a different subject," Dollive said. "For example, last night, we worked on some topics from the science portion."

The District competition is a day-long competition that is held at a school participating in the competition. After the team members have taken all the subject tests, written an essay, given the two speeches, and participated in an interview, awards are given out. Medals are awarded in each subject to the three individuals in each of the divisions who score the highest in that subject. Medals are also given out to the three students in each division who have the highest overall scores in competition. In addition, the school with the highest overall score is awarded a plaque in honor of their achievement.

The team members are looking forward to their competitions.

"I cannot wait until District," Dollive said. "It will be great."

Academic Decathlon coach Jon Baker, who has been coaching Decathlon at Homestead for thirteen years, also believes that District will be a good experience. However, he still has his reservations regarding the competition.

"I am concerned because at meetings, the kids do not work and study very much. Also, the team has gone to State for the last couple of years. So, I am afraid that the kids might be a little complacent," Baker said. "However, I know that the kids study and work a lot on their own, and I'm sure that in the end, everything will go fine."

Speech Team prepares for another successful year

evan childers
writer

Speech team is in full swing this time of year, and the numerous members are preparing for their first meet. Under the leadership of Mr. Fisher, the team is honing its skills in after school meetings, and is looking forward to another successful year.

"We expect the team to do well this year because we have some returning veterans and many freshmen with potential," Sanjeev Balamohan, (11) the Vice President of the team, said.

The speech team is an organization that competes against other schools in the area in many different categories. These events range from drama, in which a member acts out a scripted piece, to discussion, a debate-like event. Other topics include humor and radio broadcasting.

"One benefit [of the team] is that you get a great deal of experience in public speaking situations, which can help you in school or in job interviews. Also speech team looks great on college applications."

John Greco (11) is president of the team, which includes a numbers of individuals interested in refining their speaking skills. The team meets in the cafeteria on Tuesdays at 2:50. Any individual interested in joining the team can join at any time, by simply talking to Mr. Fisher or showing up at the meetings.

"Meetings are not even mandatory. We would like members to come to as many meetings as possible, but it is not a big deal if you miss a couple. Just ask someone else what you missed," Sanjeev said.

At the meetings the team is informed of upcoming events and other miscellaneous items. Team members also practice their events in front of coaches and students in preparation for the competition.

Speech meets are every Saturday. The meets consist of a panel of judges, made up of parents and volunteers, who rate a person's performance in certain events. A member performs his or her event in three different rounds, with 4-7 competitors to face off against. Then, the top 4-8 competitors in the entire event compete in the finals, in which they are given their rankings. For example, in the humor, poetry, or dramatic interpretation categories, a student must perform their interpretation of a literary piece, lasting from 5-7 minutes. Homestead's speech team has seen a good amount of success in past years.

"We did fairly well last year, with 5 five people making it to state." Sanjeev said. "Our team as a whole ranked in the top five in sectionals."

The team has topics and categories of interest to any individual interested in joining the team. Speakers of all skill levels are welcome to attend meetings and join the team in hopes of better preparing themselves for all sorts of real world situations.

"The speech team is a great extracurricular activity to take part in." Sanjeev said, "Any type of person should join."

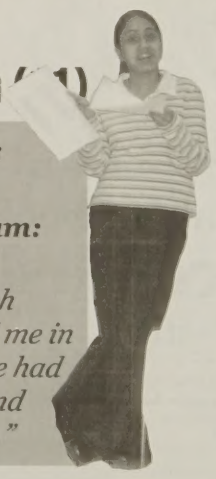
David Gehrig (11)

Years on team: *3*

Position on team: *Recorder*

"Speech Team has helped me become a better public speaker."

Sushma Jonnalagadda (11)

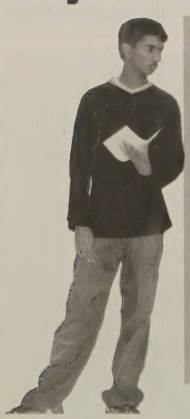


Years on team: *3*

Position on team: *Treasurer*

"Being on Speech Team has helped me in class when I have had to speak aloud and meet new people."

Sanjeev Balamohan (11)

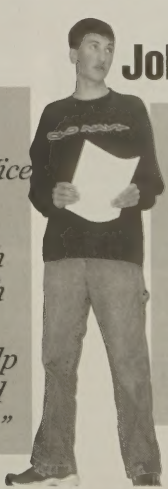


Years on team: *3*

Position on team: *Vice President*

"I think being on speech team has helped me with general speaking skills and in the future will help me in job interviews and also for school speeches."

John Greco (11)



Years on team: 2

Position on team: President

"Speech Team has helped me gain confidence and I've met new people."

photos / colin knapp

the Spartana
INTEGRATE

(in ti-grat) v. To join with something else; unite

Heated mayoral race ends with re-election; council positions filled

manasee atre
copy editor

The 2003 Allen County mayoral elections were held on November 4. They brought a mix of Democrat and Republican candidates to the mayoral, city clerk, and city council elections. Democrat Graham Richard beat out Republican challenger Linda Buskirk for Mayor, Democrat Sandra E. Kennedy defeated John D. McGauley for City Clerk, and Republican Thomas E. Smith, Republican Donald J. Schmidt, Republican Thomas F. Didier, Democrat Thomas Hayhurst, Democrat Timothy M. Pape, Democrat Glynn A. Hines, Republican John Crawford, Republican Samuel J. Talarico Jr., and Democrat John H. Shoaff were elected to the City Council.

In the mayoral election, Richard was pleased with his win over Buskirk. Richard won the election 27, 251 to 19, 701 votes, with a 58 percent share of the vote, a larger margin of victory than the previous election..

"We're turning it around in Fort Wayne, Indiana," Richard said in The News Sentinel. "[I will] continue to help lead this city as we come out of a national recession."

Richard believes that he won the race because he ran an "optimistic" campaign, instead of a negative campaign, as he believes Buskirk did.

"The voters have sent a message," Richard said in The News Sentinel. "No negative campaigning."

Buskirk, on the other hand, believes that she lost the race because people are pleased with how Richard has been doing his job.

"I think people must be happy with the way things are," she said in The News Sentinel.

With the election over, Richard is anxious to get back to work.

"I ready and raring to go," he said in The News Sentinel. "It will be nice to get back to what I really like to do - city government, not politics."

"We're turning it around in Fort Wayne, Indiana."

-Mayor Graham Richard

During his second term in office, Richard will continue projects that are already in progress, such as improving neighborhoods. He will also work to secure funding for projects (such as new street lights), prepare for the annexation of Aboite Township in 2006, and promote development around Fort Wayne International Airport.

For her part, Buskirk is uncertain about what she will focus on now that the election is over, and she says that God will take care of her. Although disappointed about her loss, Buskirk says that she enjoyed running for office.

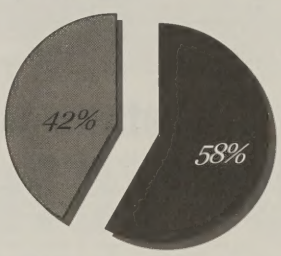
"It was a fabulous experience," she said in The News Sentinel. "I think I had a great message, I had a great team, and I had a great time."

Not just the mayor . . .

* Richard Graham has led many buisnesses in the Fort Wayne area. including the Fort Wayne enterprise Center and Integre Learning Systems.

* Current President of the Kirkwood Park Association.

* Has previously initiated the Quadrent System and the Neighborhood Response Team, to better fight crime.



Graham Richard
Linda Buskirk

Community volunteers aid those in unfortunate positions

zafar sayed
news editor

The winter months pose a problem for the impoverished, some of whom lack proper housing. In order to provide for some of their needs, the community is pulling together to provide supplies and food for them.

Each year the poor suffer from a lack of housing and food. To meet their needs, soup kitchens, rescue missions sponsored by the government as well as private parties give out free meals and provide for free or subsidized housing.

The Fort Wayne Rescue Mission Ministry alone houses over a 1,000 people while providing 125,000 meals annually.

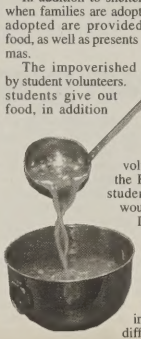
This year shelters are seeing an increased amount of people coming in for help. As of now, these shelters are hard pressed to provide for all the needs of the impoverished. For example, the Vincent House, a transitional housing facility, is operating at full capacity and has a waiting list of seventeen families.

The Chronicle of Philanthropy reported that charitable giving has declined for the first time in a dozen years.

This increase in need has corresponded to a decrease in donations. Both the increase in need for assistance and the decrease in charitable donations have stemed from the recession in the economy.

As people lose their jobs they have found themselves in need of help, and they have less money to give to charities.

In addition to shelters, the less fortunate are aided when families are adopted. Families that are adopted are provided with clothing, food, as well as presents for the Christmas.



The impoverished are also helped by student volunteers. At soup kitchens, students give out meals and help cook food, in addition to performing other activities that benefit the less fortunate.

"My brother and I used to volunteer one Sunday a month at the Fort Wayne Rescue Mission," student Priya Iyer (12) said. "We would go there and help make food. It was really good to be able to help others, and it makes you realize that there are a lot of people who need help."

As winter pulls closer the community begins to reach out to others who are less fortunate in order to help them pull through difficult times.

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Academic success honored

National Merit, Advanced Placement students recognized by the College Board

rohith iyer
associate copy editor

Upholding a status of academic excellence at Homestead, many students have once again been honored with various forms of academic recognition.

Several students have been recognized with some sort of National Merit status. This status is given to students who have scored exemplary on the PSAT. Last year, nine students were commended scholars, and there were a total of six National Merit Semi-Finalists and six National Merit Finalists. The numbers from last year have risen, with twelve commended scholars and seven Semi-Finalists being recognized this year. The number of finalists will be announced later in the year.

Several other students have been recognized with an Advanced Placement (AP) scholar award. Last year, Homestead had sixteen AP scholars, six AP scholars with honor, six AP scholars with distinction, and one National AP scholar. These numbers have also increased from last year, with twenty-one AP scholars, eleven AP scholars with honor, eleven AP scholars with distinction, one State AP scholar, and one National AP scholar recognized at Homestead.

In addition to recognition with National Merit and Advanced Placement scholar status, Homestead graduates have consistently preformed above the state and national averages in the English, Reading, Math, and Science portions of the ACT for the past six years. The verbal and mathematics averages of Homestead graduates taking the SAT in the past six years have also been consistently above both the state and national average.

"I am very proud of how the students are performing academically," Principal Dianne Moake said. "This is the first time in the school's history that we have had someone recognized as both a state and national AP scholar."

AP Scholar with Distinction

Ryan Adams
John Greco
Zafar Sayed
Ben Swiss
Ryan Wynn

National Merit Semi-Finalist

Ryan Adams
Manasee Atre
Ray Keller
Gene Kim
Tom Landrigan
Michael Slosson

AP Scholar with Honor

Allison Cosbey
Serena Dollive
Gene Kim
Brian Smith
Sarah Sorenson

AP Scholar Award

Sarah Boys
Benjamin Kitto
Ray Keller
Alex Kroh
Ryan Keopke
Tom Landrigan
Jonathon Lubkert
Marcus Lee

(pûr'vyoo') n. Range of vision, comprehension, or experience; outlook

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November 21, 2003

In Dubious Battle

Debate rages on as Partial Birth Abortions are now banned.

zafar sayed
news editor

For three decades now, the Supreme Court has upheld that a woman does in fact hold the right to end a pregnancy if she so wishes. On October 21st, however, a landmark decision passed by the Senate may slightly change the laws regarding abortion. Since *Roe vs. Wade* in 1973, no federal mandate has ever been passed banning abortion -- until now. With the support of President George Bush and much of the Republican party, the practice of partial birth abortion has now effectively been criminalized in many areas of the United States.

Many in opposition to the Partial Birth Abortion Ban Act of 2003 feel that it violates the constitutional rights set down regarding such an issue. In fact, several judges in several states have placed temporary restraining orders on the new law, citing that the act contains no exceptions regarding mothers whose health may be at risk. This oversight perhaps, has spurred intense national debates as to the moral and political right of the government to place such a ban. In fact, President Clinton has twice vetoed such bills.

The partial birth abortion, a procedure performed in the second or third trimester of pregnancy, occurs once the fetus has already developed extensively. One such technique involves three distinct steps: a breech delivery of the unborn fetus via forceps, a puncture in the back of the skull, and a collapse of the brain cavity by effectively sucking out its contents. Other methods of abortion involve the dismemberment of the fetus while still in the uterine cavity, but are still legalized. The reason these particular surgeries have been allowed to continue for quite some time is the fact that under common law, the baby has not been born until the head itself has been delivered from the mother's womb.

Doctors who still choose to perform the procedure against the new laws, could now be subject to criminal sentences of up to two years - even if in a situation where medically necessary.

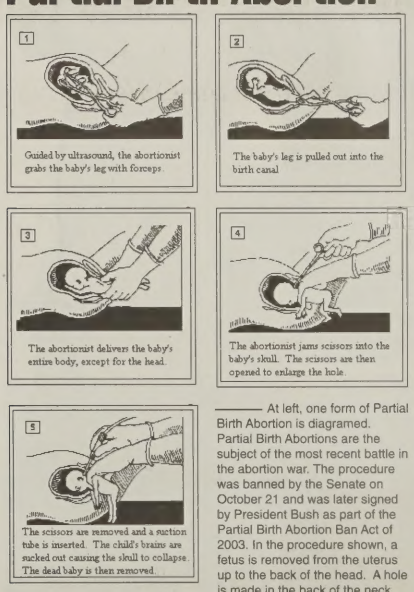
"[The President] will become the first United States president to criminalize a safe medical procedure," Senator Frank Lautenberg of New Jersey said, in an Associated Press report.

Proponents to the ban in the legislature, however, take a much different view on the matter.

"We can't allow this kind of brutality to corrupt us. It makes a much more brutal and harsher country if we stand here and say, yes, for whatever reason, we are going to allow this to occur," Senator Rick Santorum of Pennsylvania said.

Whatever the political opinion presently, it is clear that the ban will likely be contested once again in federal court.

Forbidden procedure: Partial Birth Abortion


1
Guided by ultrasound, the abortionist grabs the baby's leg with forceps.
2
The baby's leg is pulled out into the birth canal
3
The abortionist delivers the baby's entire body, except for the head.
4
The abortionist jams scissors into the baby's skull. The scissors are then opened to enlarge the hole.
5
The scissors are removed and a suction tube is inserted. The child's brains are sucked out causing the skull to collapse. The dead baby is then removed.

pictures / courtesy nrlc, used with permission
www.crlc.org/abortion/pba/diagram.html

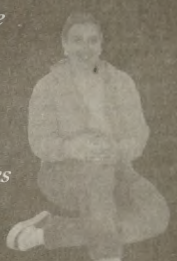
At left, one form of Partial Birth Abortion is diagramed. Partial Birth Abortions are the subject of the most recent battle in the abortion war. The procedure was banned by the Senate on October 21 and was later signed by President Bush as part of the Partial Birth Abortion Ban Act of 2003. In the procedure shown, a fetus is removed from the uterus up to the back of the head. A hole is made in the back of the neck and the brains are removed.

Spartana Forum

Staff and students had differing opinions to share about Partial Birth Abortions.

kasey butcher
associate news editor

"I think once people have decided to go that far in the pregnancy they need to have the baby, there are other optons besides abortion."-- Jenni Coplen (11)



"I believe that, unless there is a medical emergency, abortion in all cases is wrong." -- Jon Baker, history teacher

"I think the ban is a good thing because Partial Birth Abortion is a really violent way to kill a baby that is almost ready to be born." --Drew Hadley (11)

Universiy of Chicago study questions when adulthood begins

kasey butcher
associate news editor

A first date, a diver's license, going to college, turning 18 and 21; all are rites of passage on the road to adulthood. Sociologists are now saying, however, that the journey from childhood to adulthood is lengthening.

The period of adolescence exists primarily in industrial and post-industrial societies and is classified by maturation, increasing responsibilities and stresses, and by a search for one's identity. Adolescence is also a time of conflict as a person in this stage has an undefined social status. They are expected to be responsible for their actions, yet they still must be home at the time their parents mandate.

This period is traditionally viewed as falling between the ages of 13 and 18, but even in the early 1900's adolescence did not exists in the United States as children went to work as young as eight years old. As the country becomes more technology oriented and more education is needed before entering the workforce, the period of adolescence is being extended. A recent study by the University of Chicago found that most people believe that adulthood begins as late as 26 years-old, and many thirty-somethings still don't feel that they qualify as adults.

Many variable effect this lengthening of adolescence, including the weakening economy. As young college and high school grads struggle to find work in a competitive work force, more and more are staying at home with their parents, and putting off the adulthood responsibilities of living on their own, grocery shopping, and paying the rent.

The University of Chicago study also found that most people view getting married and having children as the start of adulthood. With more people staying in school longer and living with their parents for extended amounts of time, these milestones are being pushed back as well.

"The new life course has become much more spread out and flexible," developmental psychologist Jeffrey Arnett told CNN. "It's not like one day you wake up and you're an adult. It's much more gradual."

Unlike the age of adulthood, however, the age when fertility in women begins to decrease has not been delayed, creating the additional stressor of balancing career and family life.

"So women really need to think about how they're going to fit children in," Elaine Wethington, a sociologist of human development at Cornell University told CNN. "You can't just let it emerge. You have to plan for it."

Failure to reach adulthood, however, can not be placed solely on young peoples' shoulders. Wethington also believes that the current generation of parents is more reluctant to let go of their children than generations past. While their parents may have expected them to move out and support themselves at 18 or 21, today's parents are all to happy to allow their children to be children a little longer.

"I'm 53 and I remember when I went to college, my parents considered me an adult and I was pretty much on my own and allowed to make my own decisions," Wethington said. "Today, I think parents at some level want the child to still be dependent a little bit longer, if they're going to keep paying the bills."

Although many adults worry about teenagers growing up too fast, sociology is showing that in fact it is taking longer than ever for young people to transform into adults. With the economy at the forefront of the problem, forming a career and starting a family are being forced to wait.

It's a small world, after all

kasey butcher
associate news editor

Iraq is in the news every day, news that is dominated by "adult" events and conflicts. With all the talk about revolts and rebuilding, it's easy to forget that while American teens are developing into the leaders of tomorrow, teenagers in Iraq are doing the same.

Abdullah Al-Damiuji, a woman who grew up in Iraq and is finishing her medical degree in England, shared her knowledge of Iraqi youth with *The Spartana*.

The Spartana: How do teens in Iraq compare to teens in the United States?

Abdullah Damluji: There is no comparison between teens in the states and in Iraq, because there are no scales to compare them on. Well, teens here have not much to do, study is the main thing that one can do, if someone is not interested in study, his parent might send him to work. Well, I have no common factors between the two countries to compare them. Most of teens here cannot travel abroad in vacations, have no summer school or other educational councils or institutions. As I tell you study is the main thing to do. Away from study, there are computer games and network games, which are facilities for entertainment.

SP: What is life like for the typical Iraqi teenager?

AD: [An] Iraqi teen is a person born in a third world country. As the teenage starts at 13 and that is the last stage of the primary school in Iraq till 19 which is the beginning of college, they have nothing much to do. As they are still young they have little suffering, most of the boys do not care about study, they play soccer in the schools or sometimes in the streets near their houses. Girls, those [who] come from good families tend to read or study more than boys in the same age. Girls from low socioeconomic status help their mothers in the house cooking, washing, and cleaning. Some get married even around 15 or 16 in those poor families. Good families (with high income) might have their children go to some private sport clubs and swimming pools though they are little in [number]. About study, they have their baccalaureate exam when they are 16, the second is when they are 18, and that is equivalent to the O level and A level in the British schools. One should have more 98 out 100 to get to the medical school, about 90 for the engineering, so some teens spend their time studying either [because] they were encouraged by their families or they love to study and read books all the time. There was an American school in the late sixties, but the BAATH party has closed it since then because of political reasons. It was a good high school. Students learn English, literature, Math and other subjects, also scholar[ships] for good students were offered to the states. It has been reopened by an Iraqi staff in the early nineties. I got to that school, it attracts good students all over Iraq. [You] need to get 95 out 100 in the primary school and get another exam to qualify to study there. Facilities were made to entertain students there; libraries, tennis courts football fields. A strange thing, they made us learn how to play some American games like baseball and what we call Court Ball (a Tennis ball and a wall played by two people). Volleyball was also played. But those were only for few students who get qualified to study in Baghdad College (that is the name of high school), you can find it on the web. Other schools have nothing like those in Baghdad College. Those were in my days, I do not know how things go on now. I am trying to explain a teenager life as I lived once. Now adays the computer games [are] playing a role in rich teenagers who can afford to buy a computer.

SP: Many American young people have a mindset of invincibility. What is the mindset of the average young person in Iraq?

AD: Sorry to tell you that I do not think that teenagers care about others, because they do not know anything about the world especially those who are standard or poor. Just after the war the satellite dishes were spread in the houses because those were prohibited by Saddam, many poor people could not afford to buy satellite, so they do not know much about the world.

SP: What is family life like in Iraq?

AD: As in everywhere a family consists of parents and children. Parents are very respected and sometimes feared, especially the father. Islamic religious families are dominating. You see girls in the streets were chadour (HIJAB) either forced by family or they are very satisfied with it. Women usually stay at home (that is for a normal family), do the house work, while men go for work. There are women who work but those are much less that those who do not.

SP: What is life like for young women in Iraq?

AD: As I told you most of them are forced to wear the chadour (HIJAB) because of religious thoughts. So those poor girls have little to do. They have to do the house work for the family with their mothers or study and go to school. There are rich families that this does not occur, but as I have told you we are talking about the mid and low class. Some girls are forced not to complete their studies and wait for marriage. We need a lot to be a good country again, we used to be a good country once in the sixties and seventies.

SP: What is your opinion of the United States' recent actions in Iraq?

AD: I really was with the American Invasion from the beginning because under SADDAM'S regime there is no hope for Iraq though it is an occupation, they have prospect to live, improve life, and standard of living.

Although there are many miles between Iraq and the United States, the countries' youth are not so far apart. Motivated to get an education and build a better, more peaceful future, the next generation may prove that it's a small world after all.

the Spartana EXALT

(eg-zalt') v. to glorify, praise, or honor

The many faces of Brett Hunter

Student takes on role of "Doppelganger" in fall play, portraying seven different roles

javed sayed
designer

In the fall play, one student played more roles than any other. Brett Hunter (12) portrayed seven characters in "The Werewolf's Curse," also known as "Hair Today Gone Tomorrow."

The fall play revolved around two students who went to a castle to visit Doctor Frank Einstein. The students were seeking the doctor's help because one of them had been bitten by a werewolf cub. The bite of the werewolf cub caused the student to partly become a werewolf. This in turn caused him to turn into a full fledged werewolf on some nights. In order to cure the curse, Doctor Einstein, under the guise of finding a gypsy, called Professor Wonder's carnival troop. The students fell for Einstein's fake plan of using a gypsy to cure the student's curse. Einstein's ulterior motive, however, was to steal the pituitary gland from a werewolf and then put it into the cursed student. This would cause the student to become a full fledged werewolf. Doctor Einstein believed that this result would allow him to make a lot of money in a sideshow.

Hunter was responsible for playing the parts of Otto (a poor but sensible farmer), Frederic (the butler), Freida (the old house keeper), Olof (the village idiot), Heide (the maid), Brunhilda (the cook), and Hans (the constable).

According to Hunter, all but one of the characters he portrayed were rather eccentric. Hunter said that the "wackiness" of the characters made playing the roles enjoyable for him.

"They were all sort of off the wall, except for Otto," Hunter said.

Hunter's favorite role was Hans the constable. Hunter based his portrayal of Hans off of Peter Sellers, the inspector in the Pink Panther.

"I'm a Peter Sellers fan and I wanted to do this as a tribute to him," Hunter said.

When Hunter found out he was to be playing seven roles in the play, he was a ecstatic. However, at the same time, he was also a little nervous.

"It was very overwhelming," Hunter said. "I was really excited to be in the play. The cast just looked wonderful."

Although, it was quite a bit more difficult than usual, Hunter managed to memorize all of his lines by putting in some extra work.

"It was especially hard during the scenes where I talked to myself," Hunter said. "Usually I'm pretty good at memorization, but it was still pretty hard."

> "It was very overwhelming. I was really excited to do be in the play. The cast just looked wonderful."
>
> -Brett Hunter (12)

In order to keep each character separate in his mind, Hunter tried to make each character as different and outlandish as possible.

To get his parts in the play, Hunter went to an audition where drama teacher Ed Koczergo had him read the lines of two or three of the characters. Koczergo liked Hunter's audition, and he chose him to play more roles then any other student in the play.

Hunter has performed in many other plays other than "The Werewolf's Curse." In addition to acting in "The Werewolf's Curse," Hunter has also participated in "Greece," "Picnic at Hangingrock," "Tommy," and "Footloose."

Hunter started seriously performing when he was about seven or eight years old, and he has been enjoying it ever since. Even before that, however, Hunter used to participate in plays and other activities in his church.

"I just think it is so fun," Hunter said "I love it. There is nothing I like better than acting."

Although the play went by quite well, Hunter still feels that there were improvements that he could have made in "The Werewolf's Curse."

"I am my biggest critic," Hunter said.

When Hunter is done with his high school education, he plans on going to college and majoring in acting. When he finishes college, Hunter hopes to work as an actor or work in some media related field.

In the last play, Hunter displayed his talent at acting, which he hopes to pursue in the future.

The seven roles of Hunter

* **Otto, a poor but sensible farmer**
* **Frederic, the butler**
* ***Freida, the old housekeeper**
* **Olof, the village idiot**
* **Heidi, the maid**
* ***Brunhilda, the cook**
* ***Hans, the constable**

all photos/ zach hetrick

dop·pel·gäng·er or dop·pel·gang·er (dpl-gngr, -gng-)
noun
A ghostly double of a living person, especially one that haunts its fleshly counterpart

photo/ zach hetrick

Far left: Brett Hunter (12) plays the part of Freida, the old housekeeper. Above: Hunter performs in the school play as Hans, the constable. Right: For his third role, Hunter played Heidi, the maid. Heidi dusts the furniture and cleans the house.

Top left: Olof, another role played by Brett Hunter (12), speaks with a vampire and the carnival owner. Aaron McClaskey (11) played the role of the carnival owner. Top right: Olof speaks to the audience. Below: Hunter talks to the doctor played by Tom Stoffel (12).

the Spartana
ENTERTAINMENT
November 21, 2003 Contact the Entertainment Editor at theSpartana@hotmail.com

photos\zach hetrick

"The Werewolf's Curse" lights up the stage

Students bring to life the story of one man's struggle with a curse.

katie corson
writer

The fall play, "The Werewolf's Curse" was performed November 6, November 8, and November 9. "The Werewolf' s Curse," was a new mix of some older Halloween horror movies from the 1930s, including "Dracula," "Frankenstein," and "The Wolf Man." Audiences who saw one of the three performances watched a comedy similar to Mel Brook's latest movie in the "Scary Movie" series.

"The Werewolf's Curse" not only provided an interesting plot, however, it also had a unique array of characters. The cast included seniors Sam Adams as Harry Pate, Bridget Pearson as Madam Clara Voyant, Carmen Schlatter as Harriet, Tom Stoffel as Dr. Frank Einstein, Bryan Lufkin as Nick Gillette, Brett Hunter as Boppelganger, and Bevin Fath as Opal Jointer. Juniors in the cast were Jocelyn Gauthier as Etta Greenleaf, Paola Montesino as Bella, Aaron McClaskey as Professor Wonder, and Jon Gigler as the Monster. The sophomores in the cast consisted of Jenn Bowers as Diane Needles, Emilie Alger as Pearl Joiner, Seth Dager as Great Giganticus, and Jim Katz as Baron Biteronderneck. Lastly, freshman Emma Farnsworth played Queen Tootiefruittee.

"The characters are my favorite part of the play this year," Alger said. "They are all unique in their own way. My favorite character is Doppel. Brett does a great job; he is hilarious."

The plot follows some events in the lives of Harry Pate, a handsome young veterinary student, and his girlfriend Etta Greenleaf, a young botany student and vegetarian.

After Harry is bitten by a werewolf cub, he is afraid he will become a werewolf himself. He and Etta go to visit Dr. Frank Einstein's castle in search of a cure. This cure can only be provided by Madame Clara Voyant, who is a part of Professor Wonder's traveling troupe.

Dr. Frank Einstein and Professor Wonder, however, have a scheme of their own. Dr. Frank Einstein, a scientist, plans to transform Harry into a horrible werewolf and make him part of the traveling troupe in order to help Professor Wonder earn more money. He also plans on using Etta to create a girlfriend for a monster that he is keeping hidden away in his laboratory.

However, their plan backfires, and they end up trapped in the castle as it burns. Professor Wonder's traveling troupe is able to obtain the money that Professor Wonder had been hiding from them.

Madam Clara is able to cure Harry after she retrieves the leaf of the wolf bear, and she then takes control of the traveling troupe. Harry and Etta are then able to return happily home to LipSync.

The play also offered a glimpse of Queen Tootiefruittee, a 4000 year old mummy, as well as of Baron Biteronderneck, a 200 -year-old vampire who only drinks fruit juice. Other characters include Opal and Pearl Joiner, two Siamese twins who are attached at the fingertip, and Nick Gillette, a sword swallower with a sore throat.

The favorite characters seemed to be the Doppelgangers, however. The Doppelgangers were six different characters, both male and female, all played by Brett Hunter. These six characters helped give the plot a very comical twist.

"The play was very light and funny," Paul Gilbert (10) said. "It was a great spoof and a very comedic take on a horror production. I really enjoyed it, and I can't wait until the next drama production."

"I thought the acting was excellent and the play was hilarious. Especially the protrayl of Dr. Frank Einstien."
Brian Marks (9)

"I enjoyed the rehersal and spending time with the other cast members."
Paola Montesino (11)

"I thought Brett Hunter was funny how he played 6 different people. The costumes changes were impressive, because they took place so quickly, if you didn't know any better you'd think it was 6 all different actors."
Jen Oberhausen (12)

Top: The members of the carnival are crowded around Madame Clara, who just had a major premontion. Top Left: Dr. Frank Einstein (Tom Stoffel) is giving Dopple Ganger (Brett Hunter), the town idiot, instructions. Bottom Left: Bella (Paola Montesino) shows the other female members of the carnival how to belly dance.

Students put on the faces of "Curse" characters

Choir director appears in Civic Theater's "Follies"

Rosalie Byrne takes on the role of Phyllis, a retired showgirl

matt anderson
designer

Rosalie Byrne, Homestead's choir teacher, had a lead role in the Civic Theater's latest musical, "Follies."

"Follies" is the story of a group of old friends who have come back for one last party at the old theatre where they used to perform The theater is soon going to be torn down. The alumni consist of a variety of characters, each reliving their own past experiences one last time.

"I played a retired show girl who had worked at "Follies" years before," Byrne said. "Her name is Phyllis, and she is quite an interesting character."

The musical follows more adult themes and can be a little colorful at time. It is not considered to be a very happy or uplifting play.

"I think the musical is definitely for a more mature audience," Byrne said. "It's not a comedy, but a drama, a very dark drama. It follows some very dark story lines. You probably won't walk out of the theatre extremely happy after watching "Follies."

"Follies" was written by Stephen Soundheim a renowned writer of musicals such as Into the Woods and Sweeny Todd. The play is considered to have great music, and is famous for two its songs, "Broadway Baby" and "I'm Still Here". The music uses the sounds from the 20's, 30's, and 40's, and is very diverse.

"'Follies" has some great songs in it," Byrne said. "The music is very well rounded. Some of the pieces are extremely pretty, and then others are extremely funny. For example one of the show stealing numbers, "My God Why Don't You Love Me Blues", is incredibly funny."

"We had five or six teenage dancers in the play, but we also had an 88- year-old cast mate. It was very interesting to work with such a varied cast."

-Rosalie Byrne

The cast of "Follies" was very diverse, with enormous age gaps between cast members.

"We had five or six teenage dancers in the play," Byrne said. "But we also had an 88- year-old cast mate. It was very interesting to work with such a varied cast."

Byrne has done many area plays in the past, but she has not done anything recently for the Civic Theatre. She was excited to perform there again.

"I haven't done a Civic [Theater] play in about fifteen years," Byrne said. "I have done other pieces around the area with different groups, but hadn't done a Civic [Theater] piece in quite some time. I was very excited to do another play there."

The cast started rehearsals the second week of September and didn't finish performances until the second weekend of November. They had performances from Friday through Sunday night starting on October 31, and the performances ran for three weeks.

"It's been a lot of hard work and preparation, and I had been looking forward to the performances for a long time," Byrne said. "Doing the show has been great, but I won't be that upset once it's over."

After the cast finished performances they felt Follies had turned out to be a big success.

"The audience has been good," Byrne said. "The show seemed to really come together. From the audience to the performances , everything's been better then I imagined."

2c
November 21, 2003

the Spartana
EXHORTATIVE

(ig-zor t -tiv) adj. intending to encourage, incite, or advise

Spartan Briefs

Lonestar

Lonestar will perform on Saturday, December 6 at 7:30 p.m. The concert, which will feature country music, will take place at Murat Theater in Indianapolis. Tickets range from $25.00 - $35.00 and can be purchased by calling (317) 632-7469 or (317) 231-0000.

Harry Connick, Jr

Harry Connick, Jr. will be performing at the Murat Theater in Indianapolis. The concert will take place on Sunday, December 14 . Prices range from $31.00 - $72.00. To purchase tickets in advance call (317) 231-0000 or go online at www.ticketmaster.com.

Bill Cosby

Bill Cosby will be performing at the Indiana University Auditorium in Bloomington on Saturday, December 6. Cosby, who is known for his comedic routines, will give two performances. The first performance begins at 6:00 pm, followed by an encore at 9:30 p.m. Tickets are priced at $55.00. For more information or to purchase tickets visit www.ticketmaster.com.

David Copperfield

David Copperfield will be performing on December 11 at Emens Auditorium in Muncie. Copperfield, a well-known magician, will start his presentation at 8:30 p.m. Ticket prices range from $30.00 - $46.00. Tickets can be purchased in advance by visiting www.ticketmaster.com.

The Last Samurai

The Last Samurai is set to come out on December 5. The film takes place in Japan during the 1870s. In the film, Captain Nathan Algren, played by Tom Cruise, is an American officer who is hired by the Emperor of Japan to train Japan's army in modern warfare. As the Japanese army begins to eradicate the Samurai warrior class, Algren finds himself torn between the two worlds. The film has been rated R for "strong violence and battle sequences."

Return of the King

The Return of the King will start showings on December 17. The PG-13 rated movie signals the end of The Lord of the Rings trilogy inspired by books written by J.R.R. Tolkien. The film features two hobbits named Sam and Frodo, creatures that are mini-humans. They are involved in an attempt to destroy a powerful ring by putting it in a volcano in the enemy stronghold. Other movies in The Lord of the Rings trilogy include *The Fellowship of the Ring* and the *Two Towers.*

Timeline

Timeline is set to come out on November 26. The sci-fi film is based upon the novel by Michael Crichton. The movie is set in the future at a time when travel into the past has been made possible. A professor and archaeologist studying in 14th century France has missed his window to return to the present. A group of his students then travel back in time in an attempt to rescue him, and must confront the problems that plagued the past. The film is rated PG 13 for "intense battle scenes and brief language."

Gothika

Gothika, a production Warner Brothers Picture, is set to be released on November 21. The movie features Halle Berry, Penélope Cruz, and Robert Downey Jr. In the supernatural thriller Dr. Miranda Grey (Halle Berry) a criminal psychologist, wakes up to find herself in a mental institution. She has no recollection of how she got there and finds out that her husband had been murdered three days earlier and evidence points to her. As Grey tries to regain her sanity she begins to think that she is has become the pawn of a vengeful spirit. She must determine if she is getting closer to the truth or sliding down the well of insanity. The movie is rated R.

Puddle of Mudd

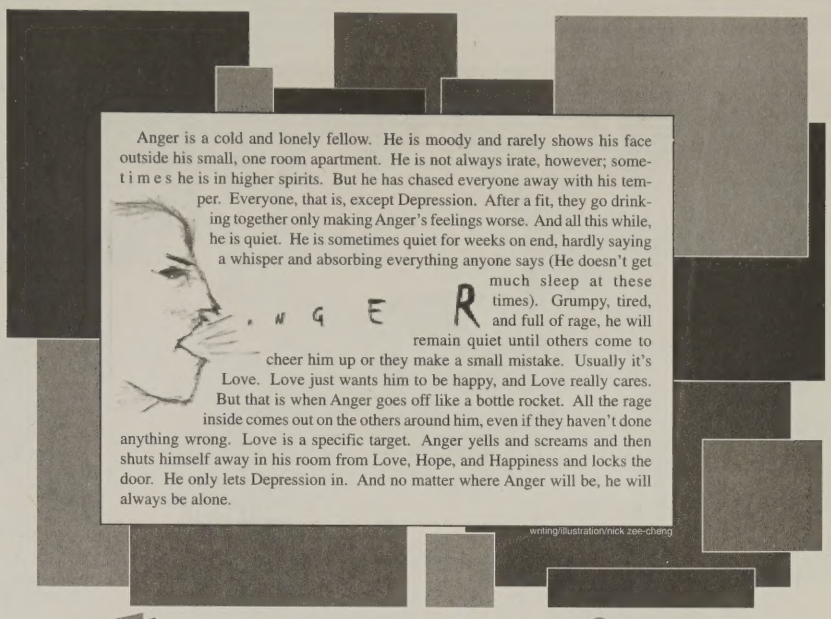
Life on Display by Puddle of Mudd is being released on November 25. The album features extras including interviews with band member and footage of making the cd. The album new single "Away from Me," was released on October 14. It is currently in the top 5 on the Modern Rock list and Top 10 in the Active Rock charts.

Counting Crows

On November 25 Counting Crows will be releasing their new CD *Films About Ghosts --The Best Of Counting Crows* . ""Ghosts" in the euphemism used by Adam Duritz to represent memories. The CD features one new tune as well as a plethora of old ones.

Calendar

12.3 Winter Scenes auditions at 7 p.m. 12.4 Holiday Concert in the Auditorium at 7 p.m. 12.6 Semi-Formal 8-12 p.m.12.14 Harry Connick, Jr performs at the Murat Theater. 12.17 The Return of the King opens in theaters.



Anger is a cold and lonely fellow. He is moody and rarely shows his face outside his small, one room apartment. He is not always irate, however; sometimes he is in higher spirits. But he has chased everyone away with his temper. Everyone, that is, except Depression. After a fit, they go drinking together only making Anger's feelings worse. And all this while, he is quiet. He is sometimes quiet for weeks on end, hardly saying a whisper and absorbing everything anyone says (He doesn't get much sleep at these times). Grumpy, tired, and full of rage, he will remain quiet until others come to cheer him up or they make a small mistake. Usually it's Love. Love just wants him to be happy, and Love really cares. But that is when Anger goes off like a bottle rocket. All the rage inside comes out on the others around him, even if they haven't done anything wrong. Love is a specific target. Anger yells and screams and then shuts himself away in his room from Love, Hope, and Happiness and locks the door. He only lets Depression in. And no matter where Anger will be, he will always be alone.

writing/illustration/nick zee-cheng

Abstraction

Advanced American Literature offers deviation from typical English class

christy landrigan
designer

A class designed to enrich student understanding of twentieth century American literature and how it addresses issues in today's society, Gayle Bloom's Advanced American Literature class offers a unique view into the lives of authors and the inspiration for their stories.

The course, meant specifically for students who crave a more in-depth approach toward American literature and discussion, is offered one class period per semester, and it is usually taken by seniors who are well-read and desire to further their literary comprehension.

"It is a senior elective they may take," teacher Gayle Bloom said. "They have several choices; this is one they may choose."

Typically, seniors who have taken Advanced Placement English courses sign up for the discussion-based class. For students who do not meet this prototype, Bloom offers some advice: Don't be intimidated too quickly.

"Students don't have to be ALPHA; it's not AP. But the class can be intimidating because you're thrown in with a high caliber student, and you'll be compared to them. They should have a strong comprehension of literature, but if they have an AP base, it's much easier to adapt."

Though the course is modeled after one offered at a prestigious all-girls school, the workload is less than seniors may expect.

"There isn't a whole lot that I expect of them out of class, as long as they read and can contribute to discussions in class the next day. The class is convenient for that reason, because it is based on discussion," Bloom said.

The symposium atmosphere and small class size contribute to intimate discussion and in-depth analysis of author's backgrounds and the author's motivations for writing the novels that are read in class.

"Any students who takes this course should have an open mind, because all kinds of topics can come up in our discussions," class member Megan Hoffman (12) said.

A unique aspect of the course is the variety of literature students are exposed to. While other courses study works mostly composed by white Protestant authors, this class focuses on authors of diverse ethnic and religious backgrounds. Each novel was written in the twentieth century and deals with issues that still have relevance in today's society.

"All of our novels were written in the 1900s. Most of the literature that students read for other courses is from the 1800s, and much of it is from British writers. Advanced American Lit offers an in depth, modern look at American literature that students aren't necessarily otherwise exposed to. "

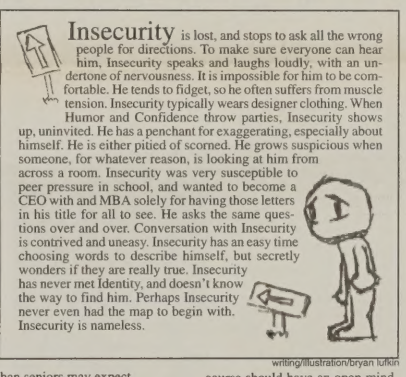
Issues covered include the individual versus society, the plight of the black woman in American history, distorted perceptions of the gifted, the meaning of life, the mourning process in various religions, mental illness, philosophy and conforming to society.

"Each novel has a different issue and we look at those issues in the book, and where our society is in relation to those issues today--like prejudice, race, culture," Bloom said.

Discussion follows completion of a novel, as do presentations from local residents who have lived the issues in the novels.. Recently, after the completion of Alice Walker's novel The Color Purple, students created their own abstractions--poems in which the author speaks as though he were an emotion. (Examples of this year's abstractions are displayed on this page.)

In the ten years Bloom has taught the class, she says it has evolved for the better.

"Over the years, I find more resources in the community to make the literature really come alive. It's the human condition. We look at real problems, so we understand the emotions."



Insecurity is lost, and stops to ask all the wrong people for directions. To make sure everyone can hear him, Insecurity speaks and laughs loudly, with an undertone of nervousness. It is impossible for him to be comfortable. He tends to fidget, so he often suffers from muscle tension. Insecurity typically wears designer clothing. When Humor and Confidence throw parties, Insecurity shows up, uninvited. He has a penchant for exaggerating, especially about himself. He is either pitied of scorned. He grows suspicious when someone, for whatever reason, is looking at him from across a room. Insecurity was very susceptible to peer pressure in school, and wanted to become a CEO with and MBA solely for having those letters in his title for all to see. He asks the same questions over and over. Conversation with Insecurity is contrived and uneasy. Insecurity has an easy time choosing words to describe himself, but secretly wonders if they are really true. Insecurity has never met Identity, and doesn't know the way to find him. Perhaps Insecurity never even had the map to begin with. Insecurity is nameless.

writing/illustration/bryan tufkin

Ecology classes take trip to West Virginia

Students forge creeks, climb mountains amid frosty weather

caitlin meyers
writer

Five hundred miles from home, students from Doug Waldman's ecology class took two separate trips [one in the beginning of October for 25 students and one at the end of October for another 25] to a part of the Appalachian Mountains called the Allegheny Ridge. The students experienced the feel of climbing mountains, crossing creeks, cold temperatures, and snowy weather.

On the second trip, 25 students left school at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 22. On Thursday, when they arrived, the students hiked 4.8 miles to their campsite. At the campsite, they pitched their tents, explored their new surroundings, collected firewood; and settled down for the rest of the evening.

The following morning students woke up to unexpected frost.

"It was fun to see the kids react to the below freezing temperatures and frost covering everything," Waldman said. "That was probably one of my favorite parts of the trip."

Once the students got up, they cooked their meals, warmed themselves up by the fire, and left the campsite to go on their hike.

The students hiked throughout the Monongahela National Forest, and then headed to Judy Springs, where they ate lunch. Before they arrived back at the campsite, the students faced the challenge of having to cross several creeks because it had rained a few days earlier, and the creeks were higher and more dangerous to cross.

> "It was fun to see the kids react to the below freezing temperatures and frost covering everything."
>
> **-Doug Waldman**

Once the students returned to camp, they were allowed to hang out by the fire, and go exploring around the mountains in groups.

"We hung out by the fire, which was nice after we went swimming in the creek," Shawn Sullivan (10) said.

That night, the students started to pack their backpacks for the hike back to the buses the next morning. Once it was dark, they took a night hike up to an empty meadow to watch the stars.

The next morning, the students awoke to another cold morning and packed up the rest of their things. They had to hike 1.25 miles up hill until they reached their peak point, where they took a break and ate their lunch. Soon after, they hiked downhill for 3.5 miles until they reached the buses.

The ride to the evening's lodging consisted of two stops. The group stopped at Dolly Sods to see the Krumholtz Forest. They also visited Spruce Knob. Once the students arrived at the resort, they took their first shower in 3 days, and went to dinner. After dinner, they went to the resort's hot tub, pool sauna and game room, where they were allowed to hang out until curfew. Some kids stayed at the pool and others went to their rooms.

"After we got to the lodge, we hung out and ate dinner," Sullivan said. "We went back to the hot tub and fed the deer."

Before sunrise the following morning, students woke up and left for their next destination: Ohio State University. When they arrived, they ate lunch and shopped around in the stores.

The ride home was long and the students were back at the Homestead parking lot by 6:50 Sunday night.

"This is my 30th year going on this trip and I am not sure if I am or am not doing it next year," Waldman said. "It all just depends."

(in-vig´ -rāt´) v.
to impart strength
or vitality; stimulate

the Spartana
INVIGORATE

3c

November 21, 2003

STRESS

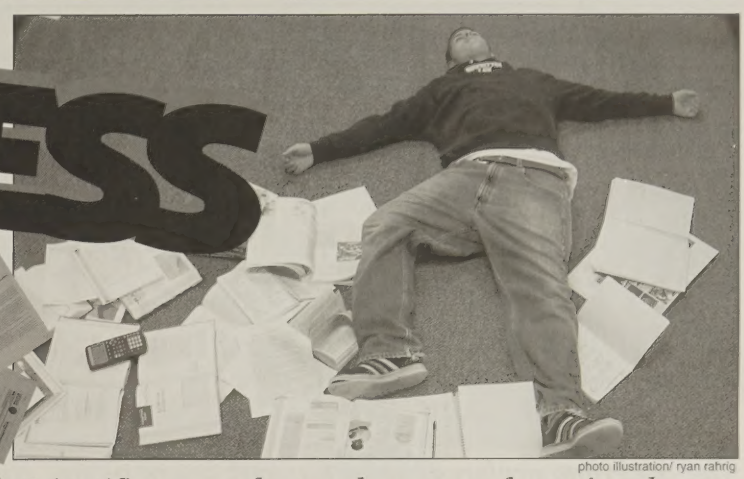


photo illustration/ ryan rahrig

Students experience stress in daily life

thao ngo
writer

Balancing schoolwork and personal lives often leave teenagers feeling overwhelmed. Taking on a multitude of responsibilities can lead to new or complex situations that are many times hard to cope with for young adults.

"Sometimes I cannot do everything I want to do just because there is not enough time," Clarrisa Gleason(9) said.

Along with schoolwork, students have to manage many different extracurricular activities. They have to fit practices, games, and club meetings in a tightly-packed schedule.

"During the band season, it's hard to manage with my schoolwork," Carolyn Rhodebeck(10) said.

Participating in clubs and sports can also take a large amount of time away from the students' study time, causing a drop in the amount of schoolwork done.

"I have so much to do already for church, drivers education, key club, my friends and family, all on top of schoolwork," Gleason said. "There just is not enough time for me to do everything."

Additionally, stress can cause many effects on students to be careless, forgetful, and can cause a lack in concentration.

"Sometimes I am so upset or stressed out that I just give up on whatever I am doing, and nothing gets done," Jen Guzman (11) said. "I have a lot of responsibilities along with my school work, as well as my job after school."

Whether it's school work, family problems, jobs, extracurricular activities, or problems with friends, stress can cause both physical and emotional tension. Too much stress can have a negative effect on someone. Dealing with family and friends can always cause teenagers to be over stressed.

"Stress especially causes arguments at home," said Guzman.

In addition, moving to another place or problems with boyfriends or girlfriends can have a negative effect on teens. It can cause confusion and frustration that distract students.

"When my mom decided to move from Chicago to Fort Wayne, this factor alone caused a lot of stress. I had to leave everything behind," said Guzman.

Although many teenagers do not find the time to relax in their busy schedules, there are many ways to reduce stress.

"I get through the band season and the stress by just setting up some time to just hang out," Rhodebeck said.

Many solutions for teens to relieve their stress are simple and can be enjoyable. Activities such as listening to music, writing, hanging out with friends, spending time with family, talking on the phone, exercising, and several different hobbies can help students reduce the amount of stress in their busy lives.

"When I get too stressed, I call a friend and just chill to get a break from everything," Gleason said.

"I talk on my cell phone to my friends, boyfriend, and family back home in Chicago," Guzman said. "Just being able to talk about how your day went and how you feel helps a lot."

Scientific research reveals causes of emotional stress

sarah kennedy
writer

Everybody can remember a day when it seemed like everything went wrong from the moment he got up to moment he went to bed. Missing the bus, breaking up with a boyfriend or girlfriend, and failing a test are unfortunate events that can happen in a teenager's life. These things, along with others, add to the load of stress each teenager carries around with them daily.

Stress has several causes which can be narrowed down to one main factor: change. Any change in a person's life results in some type of stress. Events such as divorce, death, relationship issues, moving to a new school, or taking a test are commonly associated with the word stress. Happy and fun events like winning an award, however, are also causes of stress and create reactions from people based on their emotions and adrenaline as well. These positive changes can create a positive reaction, as long as the person has the right attitude about what is happening to them.

Attitude is something that people should think about when trying to manage stress. Stress is created by what a person thinks, rather than what actually happens. A person's thoughts of a situation can cause the stress to either be good or bad.

"Attitude, to me, is more important than the past, than education, than money, than circumstances, than failures, than successes, than what other people think or say or do. I am convinced that life is 10 percent what happens to me and 90 percent how I react to it, and so it is with you," bestselling author and public speaker Charles Swindoll said (author of such books as Three Steps Forward, Two Steps Back).

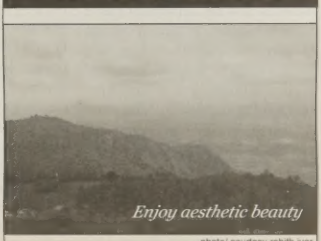
Although the common preference is to not have stress at all, stress can be very beneficial in certain situations. Before important events, stress can cause a person to feel nervous or anxious, which then helps the mind to stay alert and prepared. Since the person is prepared, they can handle any problem that might come up during the event. Stress also causes the body to release hormones such as adrenaline. Adrenaline can help a person to avoid a sticky situation and come out all right. At the same time, however, too much stress can have negative effects on a person's health.

Some signs of excessive stress are headaches, nervousness, stomach ache, increased heart rate, perspiration, drop in school performance, lack of concentration, carelessness, anger outbursts, nightmares, and depression or a decrease in social activity. Excessive stress for long periods of time can shorten a person's life span and end up causing serious health problems such as asthma and ulcers.

"Stress is like the tension on a guitar string. Turn it too tight and the string snaps, too loose and it won't play. If handled well, stress strengthens us for future encounters. If handled poorly, stress can lead to health problems," author Mary Pilat stated in her book Adolescent Parenthood and Education: Exploring Alternative Programs.

While too much stress can be harmful, there are ways to handle it. Leading an active, involved life, exercising regularly and eating properly can keep stress from becoming too high for a person to cope with. Talking to a friend or parent is also essential in relieving feelings of stress or worry, and helping others with their issues can get a person's mind off of their own problems. Sometimes it is necessary to postpone decisions or events, and to prioritize things that need to be done so the important decisions can be made first. It is not always best to become upset about problems that cannot be controlled, acceptance is sometimes a good reliever of stress. If people are able to train themselves to relax, it will help them in keeping stress under control.

Stress Management



Enjoy aesthetic beauty

photo/ courtesy rohith iyer

Avoid excessive amounts of caffeine

photo/ zach hetrick

Get enough sleep

photo/ ryan rahrig

photo/ zach hetrick

Ashtyn Bartkowiak (9) reaches for a drink in the sub line at lunch. Submarine sandwiches are one of several healthy lunch options in the school cafeteria.

Quick tips for healthy eating in cafeteria

jessica bird
writer

"An apple a day keeps the doctor away." The motto that has been on every health food advertisement is the same motto of some students and staff as they eat lunch in the school cafeteria. Although apples are available in the grab-in-go in the cafeteria, most students ignore the fruit and head straight for unhealthy foods, such as cinnamon rolls. In addition, to the "teenage ritual" of eating unhealthy, students do not choose healthy foods at lunch. Mostly because students do not know Homestead has them.

The salad line is a healthy line to go through in order to get one of the 3-5 servings of vegetables needed each day. However, salad dressing can be very fattening. Choosing low-fat or nonfat varieties is healthier.

The sub line is also a healthy choice, if the sub is not saturated in grease and oil. Dietary Guidelines advise teens to be selective and limit the total fat, saturated fat, cholesterol, and sodium they eat. Eating too much fat, especially saturated fat and cholesterol, increases blood cholesterol levels, and therefore increases risk of heart disease. Too much fat may also lead to obesity and can increase the risk of some cancers. However, if the sub is not smothered with oil, it can serve as a healthy choice as it fulfills the need for iron. The National Academy of Sciences recommends teenage boys get 12 milligrams of iron a day, mostly to sustain their rapidly enlarging body mass. For girls, the recommended daily requirement is 15 milligrams. Eating a sub containing meat is a good source of iron. It is best to consume 2-3 servings of meats, poultry, fish, dried beans and peas, eggs and nuts.

The pizza line is not the healthiest choice for a meal. However, it does not only serve pizza. On certain days, it serves different types of pasta, which are healthy. Teens need 6-11 servings of breads, cereals, rice, and pasta each day. Pasta also helps students fulfill their daily vegetable requirements, as it contains vegetables such as broccoli.

For those who do not have time to get a serving of dairy in the morning, the quick line serves a variety of yogurt, cereals and fruits. A carton of yogurt is a low fat, healthy meal choice. It is considered unhealthy to eat cereal that has a high content of sugar. Instead, low-sugar cereal should be eaten. Raisin Brain is a good choice.

> "Teenagers need at least three servings of milk each day. By the time teens are 17 years, 90% of their bone strength has been laid down. Teens need three or more servings of milk, yogurt and cheese a day."

Eating a variety of fruits reduces your risk of cancer. Foliate, a vitamin found in citrus fruits, is associated with the prevention of colon, rectal, cervical, lung, stomach and esophageal cancers.

Fruits are also needed to develop strong bones. Vitamin C, vitamin K, potassium, and magnesium are necessary for bone regeneration and are all found in fruits. The recommended amount of fruit intake is 2-4 servings.

The Mexican line serves taco salad, tacos, and nachos. When eaten in small portions, and without the sour cream, taco salad is a healthy meal choice. The taco salad contains lettuce and tomatoes (vegetable servings) along with cheese (a dairy serving). In just one serving of salad, one can get healthy servings in more than one food group.

Almost every lunch line in the cafeteria has a different variety of drinks. Although Powerade, Minute Maid Juices, and lemonade are not as sugar-rich generated as soft drinks (which are not sold at Homestead), milk is by far the best selection. The richest sources of calcium are milk and other dairy products. Building optimal bone mass through a balanced diet, including adequate calcium, may help delay the onset or limit the chance of developing osteoporosis later in life.

Teenagers need at least three servings of milk each day. By the time teens are 17 years, 90% of their bone strength has been laid down. Teens need three or more servings of milk, yogurt and cheese a day.

So next time when in need of a healthy lunch in the Homestead cafeteria, choosing healthy selections from one of these lines can help one get the correct amount of servings of food, prevent diseases, and help avoid obesity.

the Spartana
TRAVERSE

(trə -vûrs') v. To travel across, over, or through.

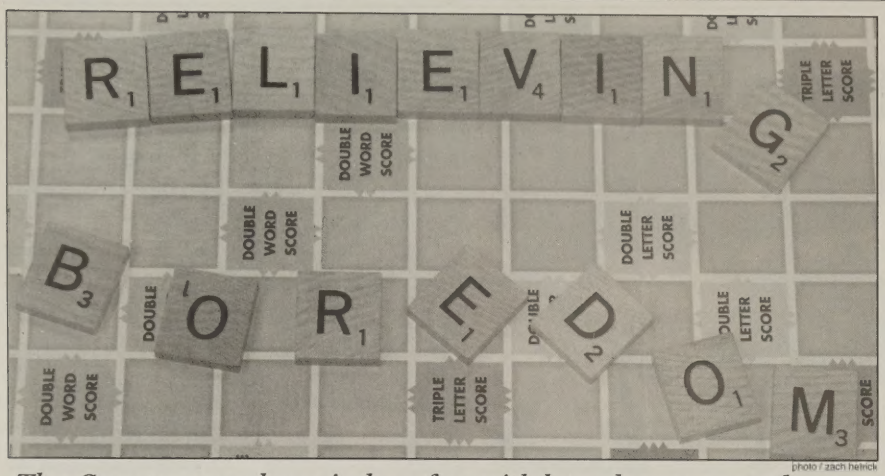


photo / zach hetrick

The Spartana explores indoor fun with board games, card games

suhasini bhargava
associate entertainment editor

After embarking upon adolescence, few teenagers seem to engage in playing board games and card games. However, traditional board games such as Scrabble, Monopoly, and Checkers can provide hours of indoor entertainment for any age. Many of today's popular games have been played for decades, and in some instances, for centuries.

First introduced in 1938 under the name Criss-Crosswords, Scrabble has been played across the world for several decades. The modern version of the game was trademarked in 1948 by James Brunot and Alfred Mosher Butts. Scrabble has been continually gaining popularity since 1948. The first Scrabble world championship was held in New York City in 1991, followed by a second one in 1993. Today, Scrabble is sold in 121 countries and has been sold in 29 different languages. The basic object of the game is to spell words on a checkered board with a maximum of seven new letters. Players are required to add letters to existing words on the board to make new words. Each time a player spells a word or uses a letter, he/she is awarded a certain number of points. The winner of the game is the player with the maximum number of points.

Checkers, which is perhaps one of the oldest games in history, was developed in Egypt in 1400 B.C. The two most common versions of checkers include a 100-square- board version used in Europe and a 64-square-board version, which is popular in North America. Although exact rules, number of pieces, and types of boards have evolved over time, the basic concept of the game remains the same. In order to win a game of checkers, a player must conquer the other person's pieces while moving pieces towards the opposite side of the board. Today, checkers has several names around the world including Dama (Italy), La Jeu de Dames (France), Warcaby (Poland), and Draughts (England).

Published at the height of the Great Depression in 1935, Monopoly is a game for the entrepreneur. Monopoly was invented by Charles B. Darrow who was in desperate need of money during the economic depression of the 1930s. The game entailed purchasing property, going to jail, and becoming wealthy. Monopoly was purchased by the Parker Brothers in 1935, and over 20,000 sets were sold on a weekly basis in its first year of publication. An estimated 200 million sets of Monopoly have been sold worldwide, and the game has been published in 26 languages.

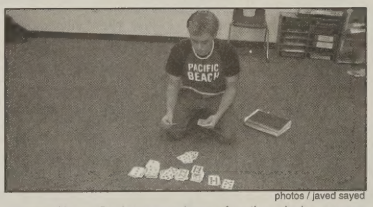
Indeed, board games have provided entertainment for billions over the centuries. From Checkers to Monopoly, this source of indoor fun continues to flourish.

Euchre

A well known card game in the Midwest, euchre is part skill and part luck. Euchre is played by two teams which are each composed of two players. Players each receive five cards from a deck composed of nines through aces. Before starting each round, players decide what the trump suit will be. Trump refers to the most valued suit. Cards in that particular suit can usurp any other card, except for higher valued trump cards. The jack of the trump suit is the highest card. The next highest trump card is the jack of the opposite suit.

The player who sits to the left of the dealer is the first person to put down a card. Once a card is thrown down, players are forced to play in that suit, unless they lack cards in the suit thrown down. In that case, the player is allowed to put down any other card. The point of euchre is to be the first team to score 10 points. In order to receive a point, you must win 3 of 5 tricks. The team that wins all the five tricks in a round receives two points. Also, if one partner feels confident that he/she can win a round by himself/herself, he/she can "go at it alone." If the partner gets all the tricks, the winning team receives 5 points.

photo / javed sayed

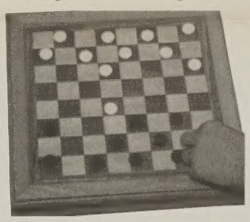


photos / javed sayed

Above: Students spend some free time playing a game of euchre. Middle: Students who stay after school often play war to pass the time. Bottom: Larry Buchanan (9) plays a game of solitaire.

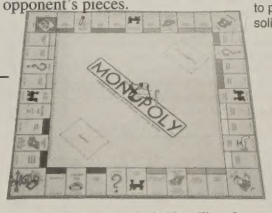
Checkers

In checkers, two players start out with twelve circular pieces. At the beginning of the game, all the checkers pieces are equal in ability. The pieces can only move diagonally and one space at a time. However, if a player takes an opponent's piece, he/she can travel two squares at a time. Also, in checkers, a player is only allowed to advance in a forward direction, unless he/she reaches the other side of the board where by the piece is "kinged." When a piece is "kinged," it is able to move backwards as well as forwards. In order to win the game of checkers, a player must destroy all of his/her opponent's pieces.

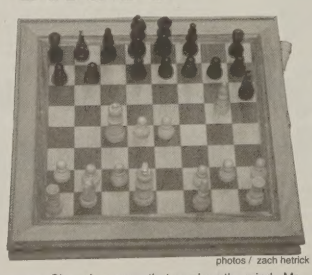


Monopoly

Monopoly is a game that requires strategy. Players start out with $200, They must advance across the board, buying real estate properties along the way. When players land on real estate properties that are owned by opponents, they must pay rent to the owner. If the property in unowned, players are able to purchase it. Owners of properties are allowed to build homes or hotels on their "land" and thereby collect more rent when opponents land on the properties. In addition, players experience the hand of fate where they can either gain money or lose it. The object of monopoly is to own the most property and to force opponents into bankruptcy.



Chess



photos / zach hetrick

Chess is a game that employs the mind. Mr. Hammel sponsors the school chess club.

Chess is a game that requires two players, each of whom command an arsenal of pieces. Players use their pieces to capture their opponent's pieces. The chess pieces range from ineffective pawns that can only move one square at a time to queens which can travel in any direction to any place. If desired, chess can be played using a timer, and each player will only have a certain amount of time to make his/her move. This extra element makes the game more difficult, because players need to think on their feet. The main object of chess is to capture the opponent's king and then declare checkmate. If students want to become involved chess, they can join the chess club in Mr. Hammel's room.

Puzzles

Cold fall and winter days are the perfect times to put together a puzzle. Although, some puzzles can takes hours, if not days, finishing a puzzle always gives a person a sense of accomplishment.

Student Government Presents . . .

Best dressed 20s attire contest with prizes!

All That Jazz

an evening of dancing, music, and spirits

December 6, 2003
Memorial Coliseum

(ə -măl'gə-māt') v.
to mix so as to make a unified whole; blend

the Spartan
AMALGAMATE

5c
November 21, 2003

The Three Amigos travel to FLAT TOP

tyler keena
writer

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josh zurawski
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While reviewing the Jefferson Pointe restaurant Red Star Tavern last issue, we stumbled upon another restaurant called Flattop Grill. After hearing mixed reviews about the restaurant, we decided to see how hot the Flat Top Grill really is.

Our first order of business is to clarify that, although the name may give the consumer the idea that this restaurant serves American food, the restaurant actually serves Oriental food.

Upon entering restaurant, we immediately noticed the modern coffee shop atmosphere. The lighting was passionately warm. While waiting for our photographer, we ordered drinks and picked out an appetizer.

Our photographer Evan arrived, and we ordered our appetizer of choice, "The Big Wow." After about a ten minute wait, our server brought out the appetizer. To say the least, it wasn't a "Big Wow." This twelve dollar sampler consisted of Shrimp Ashley, Kung Pao lettuce wraps, and grilled soy beans. None of these items were all that appetizing. Our advice: Don't waste your money on any of the appetizers. They're not worth the hole in your pocket.

Once we finished with the "Big Wow," we made our first trip to the all-you-can-eat buffet. The buffet consists of three types of rice and three types of noodles for the base of your meal. Then, there is an array of vegetables, fruits, and other toppings that you can pile on your rice or noodles. After you pick from these toppings, there are many different sauces that can be used to add flavor to your creation. One of the less intelligent people in the group (Logan) decided to use three spoonfuls of the extremely hot Chille Paste sauce. Logan's recommendation: only use one spoonful of the Chille Paste. After you choose a sauce, it is time to choose the meat. The choices are beef, pork, or chicken. Plastic sticks can be placed in the bowl for other additions, such as shrimp or perch. Also, for all of you who might have allergies, you can put a white stick in your bowl, and the cooks will prepare your food separately. It's a great way to make sure you don't eat something that could hospitalize you. No one cares to end a night on the town that way.

Once you are finished designing the food, it is left with the cooks to prepare, and then it is returned to the table. This process can be repeated as many times as the customer chooses. This place is definitely for those with large appetites.

We thoroughly enjoyed all of the food that we prepared (and we had a fair share of food between the four of us). After we had filled up on the buffet, we decided to sample a dessert, the "Chocolate Storm", which consisted of a hot brownie, ice cream, and whipped cream. It was a very delectable treat to end the evening with.

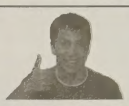
Overall, the service was fairly fast and efficient, and the food was fantastic and extremely filling. The atmosphere wasn't really spectacular - just a simple coffee shop atmosphere. However, the atmosphere lends itself to the laid back feeling of the restaurant.

Our final verdict: although a bit pricey, the Flattop Grille is a great place to go when you want to fill up on Asian food. Also, the Flattop Grille is great for the fussy eater, because the food that comes to the customer's table is totally under his/her control. Once again, Jefferson Pointe has served up a restaurant that will leave the customer happy, with a full stomach, and with a wallet that is not too much lighter.

Flattop Grill

Food

The food is the best around. There is a nice variety to make your lunch or dinner creation everything that you want.



Atmosphere

The atmosphere was not anything special - just the normal modern coffee shop atmosphere. It was not too unique or exciting.

Service

The food was made quickly and the consumer controls when he/she receives his/her food. Overall, the service is very efficient and timely.

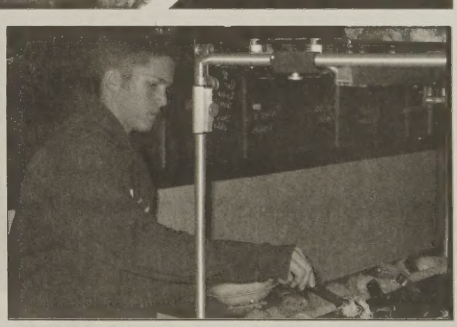
Fabulous Facilities at Flat Top

Below: The Flattop Grill buffet offers a wide variety of Oriental food for everyone. When people approach the buffet, first they pick the type of rice and/or noodles that they want with their meal. Then they choose actual meal. After their meal is chosen and prepared, they have the opportunity to add a variety fruits and vegetables on to the main course.

Left: A cook at the Flattop Grill prepares food. After customers choose ingredients including meat, vegetables, and sauces, their meals are cooked on an open grill. Some options that customers can choose to have their food be prepared as include moo-shoo rolls, salads, soups, vegetable broth, and Indian pancakes.

photos / zach hetrick

Right: Tyler Keena (11) serves himself at the Flattop Grill. Flattop Grill offers rices, noodles and other toppings. After selecting a type of rice or noodles, most customers proceed through the assembly line and add fruits and vegetables. At the end of the line, customers are offered meat options.

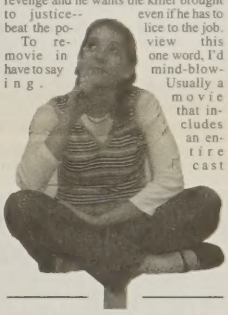


Pensive Penn ponders over paternal duty

kasey butcher
associate news editor

How far would I go to protect those I love? How can one choice change my life? What events created my reality? Just how deep can a guy's movie be? Mystic River starring Sean Penn (I Am Sam), Tim Robbins (The Truth About Charlie), Kevin Bacon (Hollow Man), Laura Linney (The Life of David Gale), and Marcia Gay Harden (Casa de Los Babys) sparked these questions and more.

Mystic River is the thrilling story of three friends Jimmy (Penn), Sean (Bacon), and Dave (Robbins). When the boys are eleven, Dave is forced into a stranger's car and held captive for four days before he escapes. He is never quite right afterward and the friends are haunted by the question "what if I had gotten in the car instead?" for the rest of their lives. Jimmy grows up to be a crook gone straight for love of his daughter. Sean leaves the old neighborhood and becomes a Massachusetts State detective. Dave grows to be a functioning, but still "not quite right" man. The three friends, who have grown apart over the years, are brought back together when Jimmy's 19 year-old daughter, Katie (Emmy Rossum, Nola), is killed. Sean is assigned to investigate the case. All evidence points to Katie's boyfriend...or to Dave. Even Dave's wife, Celeste (Harden), thinks he did it. Jimmy wants his daughter's murderer found. He wants revenge and he wants the killer brought to justice-- even if he has to beat the police to the job.



To review this movie in one word, I'd have to say mind-blowing. Usually a movie that includes an entire cast of well-known and award-winning actors creates a toxic "clash of the titans" that can kill a movie (see John Q). The actors in this film, however, work beautifully together, bringing the story to life while getting under an audience's skin. Harden is incredible. Robbins is creepy. Penn is a perfect overprotective father with a snarl to compete with Sylvester Stalone's. His performance is highly emotional and every bit as good as I am Sam.

"To review this movie in one word I'd have to say mind-blowing."
-Kasey Butcher

The imagery in this film, created by director Clint Eastwood and director of photography Tom Stern, creates a dreary combination of darkness and dirt that amplifies the unsettling tone of the story.

The story is the hard-to-find pairing of thrills, gangs, and mystery (the kind of stuff the guys like) and deeper interpretive meaning (the stuff more evolved audiences like). I was convinced I knew who killed Katie from the start. All I was waiting for was the motive. Then, in an ironic, Shakespearean 180, all my conceptions turned out to be wrong. My jaw was left dropped and my mind was spinning--but in a good way. This is a film that made me think and it is certainly one of the best I've seen all year.

Kasey's Ratings

TICKET TICKET TICKET TICKET TICKET

5 out of 5

1 = *8 Crazy Nights* level of badness
2 = Pretty Bad
3 = Average
4 = Very good
5 = *Some With the Wind* level goodness

New twenty dollar bill is safer, smarter, more secure

kelly childs
writer

I love money, and I love spending money. So, of course I love getting money. Give me a ten or two fives and I am happy, but hand me the new twenty and I am surprised. With the redesign of the U.S. twenty dollar bill, the public and I have a few new views to get used to.

On October 9, 2003, the new twenty dollar bill was released to the public. This is the first time since 1905 that color has been in a unit of United States currency. The most prominent new feature of the bill is the addition of color. Subtle tints of peach and green have been added to the background, along with the words "TWENTY USA" in blue. Personally, I think this makes our money look like money from a foreign country. Before the release of the new twenty dollar bill, American money was always distinguished by its "greenback" look. However, now that green is not the only color on the bill, its individuality and familiarity has been lost.

However, there are many benefits to the addition of color as well. For one thing, the color adds to the complexity of the design and therefore makes the bill difficult for counterfeiters to reproduce. The color also helps make the bill more recognizable to the general public.

In 1996, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing announced that they would redesign United States currency every seven to ten years, with the purpose of staying ahead of currency counterfeiters. With the seven years quickly expiring, the U.S. government decided to start planning a new design for the twenty dollar bill. The design was to be safer, smarter, and more secure so that it would be harder to reproduce, even for technically-advanced counterfeits.

The new twenty dollar bill fulfills these requirements. The "twenty" in the bottom right corner changes from a green to a copper tint when the bill is tilted, and small yellow "twenty" numerals have been randomly place in the background of the bill. To check for counterfeit money, the bills can be held up to the light. A watermark, or faint portrait similar to the one in the center, should be visible. Also, the security thread, or plastic strip, should appear running vertically up the bill. In addition, this strip should have the words "USA TWENTY", and a small flag contained within it.

Now that the twenty dollar bill has been updated, the fifty dollar bill will be reformatted next. In 2004, the fifty will be released, and by 2005 the one hundred dollar bill will debut as well. Redesign of the new five and ten dollar bills are still under consideration. However, there are no plans to redesign the one and two dollar bills as of now.

Just like the new "monopoly" money released in 1996 and 1997, the new money will take some time to get used to. However, it will also have many benefits. It will help protect our country from counterfeiters, while maintaining its integrity. The intentions of the U.S. government were fulfilled when they created the new bill - It is safer, smarter, and more secure.

the Spartan
ADVANTAGEOUS

(ad van-ta j s)
adj. affording benefit or gain; useful

Foreign Footprints:

Teacher Angela Wood ventures on a journey to walk 466 miles from Rancesvalles to Santiago de Compostela in Spain

ashley butler
designer

Spanish teacher Angela Wood took a pilgrimage from Roncesvalles to Santiago de Compostela in Spain last summer, traveling the entire 466 mile journey by foot.

The trip, paid for by a Lilly grant, lasted for two months. It began in June and ended in the latter part of August.

Ever since Wood became acquainted with a young Spanish speaking girl, she has been engulfed in Spanish culture and music.

"When I was a junior in college, I lived in Barcelona and attended the university there," Wood said. "While in Spain, I lived with a Spanish speaking family that I now visit every time I go back."

Because of the influence that the Spanish culture had on Wood's life, she decided to walk the Camino in order to experience a new way of viewing Spain.

The pilgrimage, also named the Camino, can be traveled by foot or by bike and it is taken by many people from around the world.

Wood decided that even though she had never hiked before, she would attempt to walk the entire route.

Backpacking is a lot harder than I would have expected it to be," Wood said. "The second day I sent home my sleeping bag, as well as other items, because I was carrying too much weight."

The physical strain of hiking was also a problem while trekking the path of the Camino.

"I have pictures of my blisters; the walking wasn't impossible, but it was very hard," Wood said. "I would spend four to five hours minimum walking each day; somewhere between 12 to 18 miles."

Even with a bit of preparation preceding the trip, Wood was not entirely prepared for the journey.

"I walked a lot around town and at my mother's house before leaving, but I could have never expected how much different all of the walking would be with a backpack," Wood said.

Every few days, Wood would stop walking and visit a town that interested her.

In order to successfully fulfill the requirements of the pilgrimage, the pilgrim must have a document stamped at various places along the way. Shops, restaurants and tourist attractions are among the many locations where pilgrims can have documents stamped.

The Camino was established around the ninth century as a pilgrimage to the holy city of Santiago where the bones of St. James are buried. Later, a church was erected at Santiago in memory of the saint.

While the pilgrimage is most commonly known as a spiritual quest, it can also be extremely educational.

"The trip really was a spiritual journey, but also very tourist oriented," Wood said. "We went to a lot of Catholic masses but experienced Roman ruins and Celtic culture."

The Camino is considered multi-layered in that there are two components of the journey. The first is the outer layer, encompassing physical aspects such as the strains of walking, visiting places and meeting new people. The second layer is the inner layer, and it is the more emotional and spiritual aspect of the pilgrimage.

"Part of the trip was a survival issue - I had to keep walking, not because I necessarily wanted to, but because sometimes there was nowhere to stay," Wood said.

Housing on the Camino is minimal, with men and women often sleeping in the same barracks and sharing the same bathroom.

"The accomadations were similar to barracks; sometimes as many as thirty people would have to stay in one room," Wood said.

Even with harsh living conditions, Wood kept her goal of walking the entire way.

"Last summer was one of the hottest, driest summers in Europe," Wood said. "I never walked in the rain."

Wood met many people during her trip to Santiago.

"I met a couple that had started in Holland and walked the whole way," Wood said.

People on the Camino shared a common goal. Therefore they easily made friendships with each other easily.

"I still keep in touch with the people that I walked with," Wood said. "You make fast friends with the people that you walk with because you're living under the same conditions."

The Spanish people as well as others on the Camino are accepting of the Camino walkers, as many share the same interests as the pilgrims.

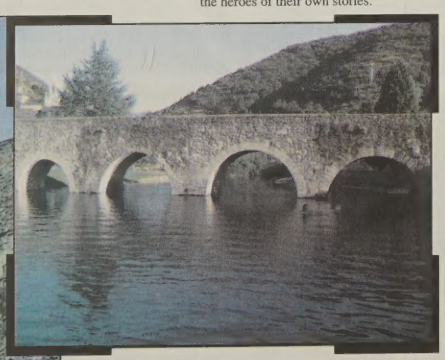
"Everyone was really kind and helpful," Wood said. "If I ever got lost or strayed off the trail, someone would always help me to get back on track."

Sometimes Wood would walk with people for a few days and then never see them again.

"It's interesting to see people that you've walked with earlier and how they've changed during the trip," Wood said. "At one point, I walked with a man for a few days. During the last mass of the trip, I found that the man I had previously been walking with was the priest that served communion to me."

The Camino experience was life changing for Wood, as well as others.

"I don't know anyone on the journey who didn't make some major changes in their life," Wood said. "I encourage students to try things that they think are difficult; I want them to challenge themselves and become the heroes of their own stories."

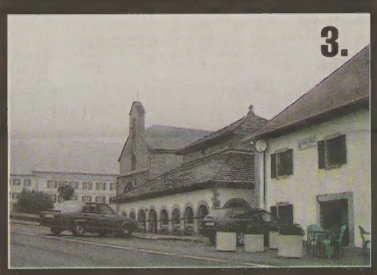


Two young children swim near a traditionally Roman bridge in a river in Molinseca, Spain. Spain is home to several Roman and medieval bridges with distinct arches.

The Knight's Templar Castle stands behind a flower bed shaped as a Tau symbol. The Tau symbol is believed to protect those who wear it. Right: Wood poses with a member from a musical group, *Una Tuna*.

Sights from Spain

photos/ courtesy angela wood



photos/ courtesy grant spangler

1. This *ensalada mixta* is a typical Spanish salad with anchovies, tomatoes and asparagus. 2. This gothic cathedral is located in Leon, Spain. 3. Pictured is Roncesvalles, a small town on the French border. Wood began her journey in Roncesvalles. 4. The sculpture of the Knights of Templar stands in front of a castle in Ponferrada. 5. Wood stands at the entrance of Santiago, the end of the journey.

the Spartana
SPORTS & VIEWS
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November 21, 2003 Contact the Sports and Views editor at TheSpartana@hotmail.com

Lady Spartans begin season on rough note

caitlin johnston
associate sports editor

After finishing last season successfully with a 6-1 Conference record and a second place conference finish, Lady Spartan basketball faces a year of reconstruction.

The loss of Tasha Hamilton, who shot 80 percent from the free-throw line, and Nikki Lewis, who averaged 13 points per game, has fostered an air of determination in the teammates the girls left behind.

"We're definitely going to need to compensate for the loss of last year's seniors," Ashley Jones (12) said. "But, I think that people will step up as leaders."

Even with an extremely small and young team, the girls anticipate a successful season.

"Because we only have 17 players total this season, there will be a lot of playing time for everyone," Jones said.

Although the team is brimming with young talent, the seniors are filling the leadership position through their friendships on and off the court.

"All the seniors have been really good friends for a long time," Jenn Kopecky (12) said. "The good relationships help make our team stronger, and they provide direction for our underclassmen teammates."

The girls played their first game on November 15 against Snider, but they suffered a disappointing loss, with a final score of 45-33. Only down by two at halftime, the girls got into foul trouble and allowed Snider to pull ahead.

"The Snider game really showed us where we need to be this season," Jones said. "We now know where were need to focus in our game."

However, the girls are not discouraged by the loss, and they are setting their standards high for the season ahead. Their most anticipated games are against Huntington North, Carroll, and Bishop Luers. In the preseason rankings, the Spartans were fourth, with Luers ranked first and Carroll ranked third.

"I honestly expect at least a conference win," Kopecky said. "Our coach [Rod Parker] says we're the best team he's had in three years and he believes we will go far."

——— Above: Eden Lamb (10) passes the ball during practice. Above right: Hannah Weide (11) drives to the hoop. ———

Moving on...

Former Lady Spartan stand-out assumes the position of assistant coach at Youngstown State University now that her playing days have finally come to an end

tyler keena
designer

A Homestead graduate and star basketball player has been enjoying continued success in her basketball career after her departure from HHS.

After scoring over 1,000 points in a Homestead uniform, Amy Waugh graduated in 1999. Waugh led to the team to three Northeast Hoosier Conference titles, three sectional championships, and one regional championship.

"My greatest achievement in high school basketball was going to semi-state my sophomore year," Waugh said.

The trip to semi-state remains the furthest any Homestead basketball team, girls or boys, has ever advanced.

After high school, Waugh set out to play basketball at the next level. She attended Xavier University, where she played four years of division one NCAA basketball.

"My best sports achievement was advancing to the Elite Eight my sophomore year in college and beating Tennessee in the Sweet 16," Waugh said. Xavier finished the season with only two losses, including a tough loss to Purdue that knocked them out of the NCAA tournament.

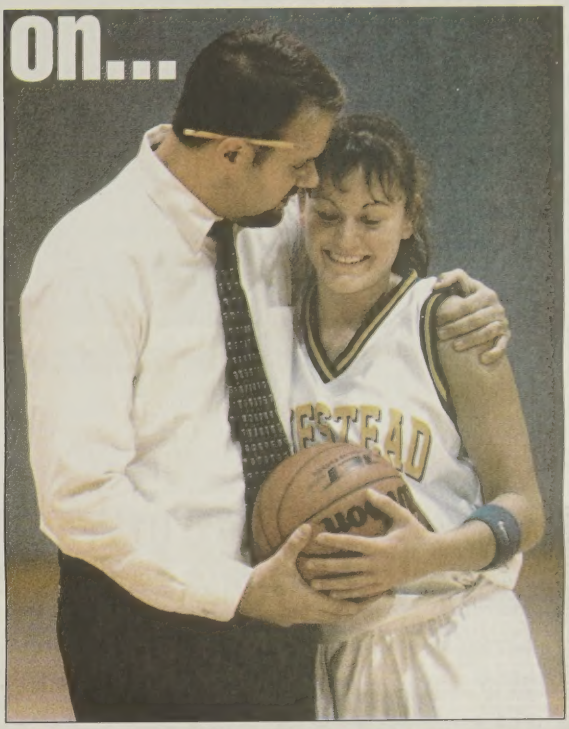
Waugh continued her basketball success at Xavier into her junior and senior years. In her junior year, Waugh led the team in scoring, assists, and steals with 16.5 ppg, 6.3 apg, 41 steals on the season. In her senior year, she continued to lead the team in points and assists, averaging 19.0 ppg and 2.7 apg. Waugh also added 107 three-pointers, setting the Xavier University record for three-point field goals made in a single season. The team finished the season 30-10 and earned a berth into the NCAA tournament. However, they were knocked out in the first round.

Although her senior season was over, Waugh continued her sharpshooting beyond the arch in ESPN's College Slam Dunk and Three Point Championships in New Orleans, Louisiana in April 2003. After posting the highest single round score in the contest's history (24) in the semifinals, she defeated Vanderbilt's Ashley McElhiney 19-14 in the finals to become the women's three point champion. She then defeated the men's winner Darnell Archey from Butler University 17-15.

"It was a great way to end my career, just being in New Orleans with players like Hollis Price (Oklahoma), Tom Coverdale (Indiana), and Dahntay Jones (Duke)," Waugh said. "It was great just to have my name mentioned in the same sentence. It was great to walk away the champion and end my career."

Currently, Waugh is an assistant coach at Youngstown State University in Ohio. YSU is a division one member of the NCAA and plays in the Horizon Conference. Right now, her future plans do not include playing basketball professionally.

"Right now I'm leaning towards staying and coaching and working my way up to ladder to eventually become a head coach at the division one level," said Waugh.



——— Amy Waugh is congratulated by ex-coach Dave Rarick after during the game when she scored her 1000th point at Homestead. Waugh holds many records at Homestead, including most points scored in a career and most assists in a career. She went on to play division one basketball for the Xavier Musketeers. She led the Musketeers to a 30-10 record and their first ever NCAA Elite Eight her senior year. Waugh is now an assistant coach at Youngstown State University. ———

FOLLOW HER CAREER

1995-1996 Clocked varsity minutes as the varsity level her freshman year.

1996-1997 Advanced to semi-state as a sophomore at Homestead.

1997-1998 Varsity starter as a junior for the second year in a row.

1998-1999 Broke Homestead records as a senior.

1999-2000 Scored over ten points a game as a freshman at Xavier.

2000-2001 Injured as sophomore at Xavier and played in only 15 games.

2001-2002 Led Xavier in points, assists and steals her junior year.

2002-2003 Won the three point contest her senior year.

2003-2004 Will be an assistant coach at Youngstown State University.

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

HOMESTEAD (95-99)

- -Most assists in one season (125)
- -Led the Lady Spartans in the 1998-99 season to their first ever regional win in post season play.
- -Most assists in one game (15)
- -Most career points (1326)
- -First team All- NHC (1999)
- -Best season free throw percentage (81%)

XAVIER (99-03)

- -All-Atlantic 10 First Team (2003)
- -All-Atlantic 10 Second Team (2002)
- -Led the Atlantic 10 in threes per game (3.06) and assistants/turnover ratio (2.09) as a junior
- -Won the college three point shooting contest as a senior
- -Led the Atlantic 10 in free-point percentage (.472) as a freshman
- Atlantic 10 Rookie of the Year (2000)

Student makes his way to the top of wheelchair tennis

amanda junk
intern writer

The tennis courts are filled with many eager participants and the crowd cheers as a point is made. The overall feeling on the court is anticipation as the players await their opponents' next moves. Also, as the opportunity is given to players in wheelchairs to compete, feelings of accomplishment and excitement are generated among the crowd and the players.

The 2003 Quickie U.S. Open Wheelchair Tennis Championships brought many athletes to the Barnes Family Tennis Center in San Diego, and it enabled them to compete in a sport in which they might not normally be able to participate. Held October 7-12, the tournament saw the faces of many eager players anxious to get out onto the court with their wheelchairs.

Wheelchair tennis is a variation of standard tennis. However, the ball is allowed two bounces on one side, instead of the regular one bounce. It can be played on any regular tennis court with no modification to rackets or balls.

Noah Yablong (9) was one of many from around the nation who traveled to the Quickie U.S. Open. He took two finals victories: one in doubles and one in singles.

"It's a great experience to compete at the national level. I am very happy to have been a winner in the divisions I competed in," Yablong said.

With one hundred participants in both the Junior Open Division and the Men's C Division, Yablong was elated with his performance at the fifth annual Quickie U.S. Open. He placed tenth in Juniors and 51st in the Men's division.

In order to prepare for tournaments, many athletes who compete in wheelchair tennis attend camps to learn strategies and find coaches who will help them condition for matches with their wheelchairs.

"I practice about four days a week in the spring and summer for about an hour. [I have a coach], Kari McGinn, [whom] I met at an ITF [International Tennis Federation] junior tennis camp."

A coach also helps players to improve skills and advises them on how to get what they want from tennis. The ITF website states, "A coach will help wheelchair tennis players to improve skills, whether they want to be a serious competitor or just play with friends and family."

In order to play tennis with a wheelchair, most participants prefer to use a quickie wheelchair. Participants in sports such as basketball and tennis gain speed on the court with these types of chairs.

"I'm using a basketball chair temporarily until I get a tennis chair," Yablong said.

Regardless of chair type, many athletes strap themselves in to their chairs in order to improve stability and maintain safety. Straps can be used around the waist, knees, and ankles, depending on the player's balance.

"[In order to prepare for a match], I strap in my chair and warm-up for awhile," Yablong said.

Other sports are also not just limited to players without wheelchairs. Yablong has had a degeneration bone disease known as Legg Perthes disease in his right hip for the past five years. This disease has disabled him from playing standard tennis. Although he does not normally use a wheelchair, a chair enables him to play sports that he would not otherwise be able to play. He learned about wheelchair tennis from one of the members on his wheelchair basketball team.

Yablong has been a member of the United States Tennis Association (USTA) Wheelchair Division since March of this year, traveling to many cities across the nation to play matches.

"[I participate in league matches] about every month during the season. All of my matches take place all around the country," Yablong said.

Yablong plays in the USTA tournament events in order to acquire knowledge and skills about the sport and to improve his game.

"I am mainly obsolete compared to most (of my opponents), but I'm better than some. The opposing players are mostly great people," he said.

Since his involvement with wheelchair tennis nine months ago, Yablong and his family have had nothing but positive comments about the organization and his involvement with the game.

"[My family] is very happy for my achievements. They're glad I can get around my disability."

Yablong's most memorable experience of the game has been going to the U.S. Open and winning on two occasions.

the Spartan
DISPORT

(di - spôrt') v. to occupy oneself with diversion or amusement

Spartan Briefs

— Ohio State Football —

The Ohio State Buckeyes had a fortunate win against the Purdue Boilermakers this weekend. The game was tied in the last two minutes, and Purdue kicked away a chance at winning the game with a missed snap by the quarterback. The game went into overtime, where the Buckeyes kicked a field goal, and Purdue attempted a last second field goal but missed. This win brings the Ohio State Buckeyes to a record of 10-1. Their next game is against Michigan and is scheduled for the 22 of November. The game will take place in the "Big House" (at Michigan) and the match-up between the number five Michigan Wolverines and the number four Ohio State Buckeyes.

—— Colts Football ——

The Indianapolis Colts won their game with the New York Giants earlier this week with a score of 38-30. This win came in the final quarter with a tricky fake field goal call by Tony Dungy, the Colt's head coach. The Giants were stupefied by the fake, and stood around while the holder ran the ball in for a touchdown. This win improves the Colts record to 8-2 for the year, and keeps them in a tie for first place honors in the AFC south. The next game for the colts will be against the other team from New York, the Jets. The game will take place on Sunday November 16 at the RCA Dome with kickoff at 4:15 P.M. Eastern Time.

— Homestead Hockey —

The Spartan hockey continues their good start to this season with a 5-2-0 record as of yet. Their latest victory came over New Haven. The team, who play on Wednesdays, would like to see some more fan support. Their next game is against Northrop on Nov. 19.

— Girls Cross Country —

The girls' cross country team continued their tradition and advanced to the state competition for the ninth year in a row. The team finished 15th place overall at the state competition at Indiana University in Bloomington on November 1. The team was led by their only senior, Leann Sarka, who finished 42nd with a season best time of 15:22. Sam Lee (10) finished second on the team, followed by Bliss Cook (11), Joy Nordin (10), Julie Krouse (11), and Emily Nestel (10). The team advanced to the state competition by finishing in second place at both sectionals and regionals, and fourth place at semi-state.

"This year was pretty successful," said Joy Nordin. "Leann showed great leadership after being hurt for a long time. But she worked hard and led our team throughout the end of the year and the postseason."

—— Girls Soccer ——

The Lady Spartans faced Bishop Dwenger for the third time this season and came out on top. This win put their record to 18-3-1 and qualified them for the state championship. In their first round of state competition, the Ladies faced the number one Carmel High School, the toughest team in the state. The Ladies were expecting a hard game, and that's exactly what Carmel gave them. Although they didn't win (Carmel came out on top with a score of 4-0 and went on to win the final state game later that day with a score of 3-0), the Lady Spartans achieved everything they wanted to this year. The team will only lose six of it's seniors for next year, and hope to do well next season.

— Komets Hockey —

The Fort Wayne Komets lost their last game with a score of 4-0. They played the Quad City squad at Quad City on November 16. This loss to Quad City brings the Komets' record to 8-5. Their next game is scheduled for November 19 against the Missouri Otters. The puck will drop at 8:30 P.M. Fort Wayne time.

—— Notre Dame ——

The Fighting Irish need to win two more game in order to make their way to a bowl game. They need to defeat Stanford and Syracuse in order to go to a bowl game. Notre Dame has not made it to a bowl game since 1994 when they defeated Texas A&M with a score of 24-21. Since then they have lost their six previous games. Last they lost to North Carolina State, the score was 28-6.

— Indiana University — Basketball

The 104th season of Indiana basketball gets under way Friday November 21 when they play UNC Greensboro at 8 P.M. at Assembly Hall. IU is 83-20 in their record of home openers. Head coach Mike Davis has won his first three opening games since he started at IU. The first game will not be televised but you can catch the game IU Radio Network on WHCC. They play UNC Greensboro on the 17, on the 24 they play Vanderbilt and, on the 29 they play Xavier.

— IPFW coach named coach of the year

The head coach of IPFW's volleyball team, Kelley Hartley was voted "Independent Coach of the Year" She was voted in by the women's volleyball coaches. Hartley helped coach the team in their first 20 plus win season. This was the teams first season as a division one team.

photo / zach hetrick

Girls Soccer ends with a bang

matt anderson
writer

Facing Bishop Dwenger for the third time this season, the girls' soccer team managed to overcome their only local oppressor, achieve a victory over Dwenger, and qualify for state all in one simple game.

The team had played the Saints twice this year, so they were familiar with Dwenger's style of playing. In a game at the very beginning of the girls' season, Homestead ended a game with Dwenger in a 1-1 tie. Then, only a couple of matches later, the team had a heartbreaker of a loss to the Saints with a score of 1-0. But when the girls met Dwenger in the semi-state finals, the end result was a little different.

"Every time we've played Dwenger it's been extremely tight," Lindsey Julius (11) said of the previous games. "At semi-state it was no different. The game eventually went into a shoot out, and then ended with us victorious. It was very intense playing, and it was a really incredible game."

Before beating Dwenger in the state game, the girls had to face Hamilton Heights. They took care of Hamilton Heights, moving on easily with a score of 6-0. The first round of their semi-state competition helped warm up the girls for the biggest match of their season against one of the best teams in the state.

"Dwenger was a huge win for us," Julius said. "After losing to them in the beginning of the season, we felt like we had gotten things off on the wrong foot. But to beat them when it really counts felt great."

Before entering the semi-state tournament the team had heard that the Dwenger girls were promised a limo ride to state if they won, so the girls asked their coach, Pat Teagarden, what he would do for them if they won, and it was soon decided he would shave his moustache if the girls were victorious. So after the girls won, Teagarden held true to his promise and shaved his moustache for only the second time since he was nineteen years old.

"Winning the bet with Teagarden was a great bonus," Mandy Eid (11) said. "Seeing him without his moustache was pretty strange. I'd never seen him without the moustache before. First we get to state, then Teagarden had to shave his moustache, it was great."

Once at state the girls were slated to play the number one team in the state of Indiana, Carmel. Although this was the first year in many years that the team hadn't played Carmel in the regular season, they still knew they were going to have a fierce competition with this year's Carmel team.

"Carmel is always good," Eid said about this year's team. "They always have some of the best soccer players in the state on their team, and if you want to beat them you have to play the best soccer of the season. They never give away anything."

By the end of the game Carmel had shut Homestead out 4-0 and knocked out the team from the state tournament. Carmel later that day would win in the finals 3-0 and be crowned state champions.

"Carmel is on such a higher scale then any team in Fort Wayne, or even close to Fort Wayne for that matter," Julius said. "Their foot skills and speed of play are unlike any local teams. They are an amazing team that plays almost perfect soccer."

Although they lost first round, the girls in no way felt that they had not accomplished what they had wanted to this season.

"It's tough to lose anytime, but when it's to a team that good it makes it easier," Eid said. "Plus, just getting that far was a huge accomplishment. Only four teams in the entire state can say they made it as far as we did. I definitely feel we achieved exactly what we believed we could this season."

The team also managed to reclaim sole conference champion title after they had to share it last year. They went undefeated in conference play, and only lost to Bishop Dwenger in the area. Overall the girls feel they have no regrets for the season and believe they have been extremely successful.

"I think the second a team makes it to state or semi-state competition in soccer they have accomplished a huge feat," Julius said. "I really wouldn't change anything about this season. Going into the season I felt we had one of the best teams in the state, I think now that the season is over we have proved ourselves worthy of that title. One of the best teams in the state."

photo / zach hetrick

—— Top: Katie Gotschall (10) attempts to head the ball and collides with a Carmel player in the process. Above: Senior players form a huddle before facing Carmel in the final round of elimination in the state soccer finals. ——

Girls Volleyball conquers NHC

Girls finished season with final record of 26-4

suhasini bhargava
associate entertainment editor

Prevailing as Northeastern Hoosier Conference champions for the first time in history, with a conference record of 6-0, the girls volleyball team finished their 2003 season on October 25. The girls' final record for the regular season was 26-4.

The volleyball team started their season in late August with a loss against Concordia. This loss proved to be one of only four losses the team faced this season. After losing to Concordia Lutheran, the team won 10 matches in a row, defeating Bishop Luers, Northside, Wayne, Huntington North, Bishop Dwenger, Marion, Elmhurst, Snider, Harding, Columbia City, and Carroll, respectively.

On September 20, the girls lost a close match to Elkhart Memorial. Elkhart won the first two games by a small margin of two points in each, proving victorious. After this loss to, however, the girls won ten matches in succession without losing a single game to any team. Among these ten teams were conference members DeKalb, East Noble, Bellmont, and Carroll. The girls continued their winning streak by defeating several schools including South Side, Leo, Southwood, and Lake Central, and Huntington North.

"We won conference which we had never won before."
-Ashley Jones (12)

In late October, the team participated in sectional matches. On October 23, they defeated Huntington North in straight games. However, the team lost in the semi-final round of sectionals.

"It [the match against Northrop] was probably an evenly matched game," Ashley Jones (12) said. "It came down to who focused more and wanted it more."

This season, the team members and coach Robert Ochoa had decided upon accomplishing three goals: the team wanted to defend their title at the annual Homestead Tournament, be crowned conference champions, and win the sectionals tournament. The team was successful in accomplishing the first two, but was unable to fulfill their final goal of winning sectionals.

"Even though we didn't win sectionals, I am extremely happy with the way things turned out," Jones said. "We won conference which we had never won before. That was senior night and it was really special."

The team's biggest accomplishment was defeating Snider in the regular season. Additionally, the team managed the best record Homestead has seen in several years.

"It [winning against Snider] was the beginning of us realizing that we could go places and have a great season," Jones said. "The record is a big accomplishment even though we don't try to focus on it too much. It was the best we've had in a long time."

The volleyball team was comprised mainly of seniors. Most members on the varsity roster had been playing together for several years.

"We [the seniors] had played before," Jones said. "Everybody enjoyed each other's company and that made it fun."

Ranking at 27th place in the state in the class 4A division at the beginning of the season, and finishing the season after peaking at 7th place in the state, the volleyball team made immense progress this season.

"The team has improved greatly in the last two years," Jones said. "This was one of the best seasons."

Hockey team off to a sizzling start

evan childers
writer

Homestead hockey is off to a strong start this season. The Spartans have moved to a 5-2-0 record after their second victory over New Haven.

Under the leadership of coach Robbie Starkey, the Spartans have moved to second place in the High School Hockey League. There are five other teams in the League: Northrop, Snider, Carroll, New Haven, and North Side. Northrop leads the league currently, with a 5-0-2 record, and have handed the Spartans one of their only two losses.

Wednesday the 21's game was a very physical contest. Both teams had many penalties, and several fights broke out. Homestead drew 16 penalties in the contest, but managed to come out on top, winning 5-1. Coach Starkey cannot be on the bench for,the next game, because of a league rule stating that the coach of any team drawing 15 fouls in one contest must be absent from the next game.

"Last Wednesday's game was a great victory for us," Skyler Villers (9). "The highlight was when a fight broke out and twelve men were sent to the box."

The team currently has 18 enthusiastic players, who have all taken time to play as part of a club sport. Because of this designation all players must pay for their participation; Homestead offers no financial endorsement. Other than the name, Homestead offers nothing to its squad.

The team has several players who have helped the team with their start. Ryan Marshall (12) and Zak Brandenburg (12) are two of the fast forwards on the squad. Jordan Churchill is another of the team's leading scorers, bringing a hat trick earlier this year against Snider. Phil Gibson (10) a younger talent on the team, and has had an impressive start for a sophomore, with four goals so far. Zak Brandenburg (12) is from Wayne Trade High School in Ohio, and is able to offer his talents to the team because of its club designation.

Last year the Spartans won the league, and are on track to win again this year. With a good effort the Spartan hockey team should show well at state. The Spartans lost last year in the semi-final round of their round robin tournament. Losing in game 3 in their tournament denied them the chance to participate in the State final.

The Spartans' next game is against league leader Northrop on Wednesday November 19.

photo / zach hetrick

—— Defenseman and forward Zane Carey (12), handles the puck at the Spartans game on Wednesday the 12. ——

(dis´ -pā´shən)
n. An amusement; diversion

the Spartana
DISSIPATION

3b
November 21, 2003

Preparing for excellence

Fresh troops of dauntless Spartan athletes gear up for the excitement of the upcoming winter season

Girls Swim and Dive

tracy kosmala
writer

This year's girls swim team are currently ranked twentieth with twenty points in the state. However, the girls anticipate after the first few meets that they will be ranked among the top ten schools. Also ranked with twenty points are South Bend St. Joseph and Terre Haute North.

Rankings don't include the points incoming freshman Jessica Skiba will surely contribute to the team down at state. Senior Rachael Helman is ranked eighth in the 200 IM. One of the team's younger but stronger swimmers, Kelly Johnson (10), is ranked tenth in one of the more difficult events to compete in, the 100 freestyle. Emily Ring is also ranked in this event with fifteenth place.

The girls competed in their first meet yesterday against Concordia. In their fifth week of training, the girls' season is well under way. Keeping up a rigorous practice schedule made up of morning workouts, dryland circuits, and daily practices, the girls are anxious to see how the rest of the season. With a few added big meets this year against Carmel and Northridge, the team will have many opportunities to compete.

Madison Hamil (12) comes up for a breath during practice while exercising the butterfly. She, along with fellow swimmers Rachel Helman (12), Tracy Kosmala (12), and Emily Ring (11), serve as this year's team captains. The Girls Swim team is top ten ranked in the area.

Boys Basketball

tyler keena
writer

After a successful 2002-2003 season, which included a near-victory in sectional competition, the boys' basketball team has a tough road ahead of them.

Last year's team thrived on the leadership of many of the team's seniors, including key players Erich Martin, Nick Diem, James Haifley, Mike Hines, Kevin Mitchell, and Dustin Lewis. However, this year, with no returning starters and only four players who have ever played in a varsity basketball game, the team hopes that they can overcome their inexperience with talent and hard work.

"We're going to need to do a lot of practicing and drilling on fundamentals and defense," said Ryan Koepke (12). "I think that we'll surprise a lot of people. We'll be a lot better than people give us credit for."

With an inexperienced team, coaching and practice will be extremely important. In order to have a successful season, the team will have to learn quickly and perform well on the court.

"Our kids work extremely hard and I still believe that they can learn to play together and play hard, fundamental basketball," coach Chris Johnson said. "No matter the talent, each and every year I believe our coaches and kids can work hard and be competitive ballclub."

photo / zach hetrick

Ben Haifly (11) drives around Ben Beanon(12) in his attempts to reach the bucket.

Catch the games:

Nov. 29	*Whitko*
Dec. 5	*@ Wayne*
Dec. 9	*@ South Side*
Dec. 13	*Manchester*
Dec. 19	*@ Carroll*
Dec. 20	*@ Huntington North*

Wrestling

jessica bird
writer

Starting anew, the wrestling team, with their new coach, is setting high goals for themselves. Last year, the wrestling team's record for the season was 5-7, with three athletes ending their seasons at semi-state. Doug Conrad (graduate 2003), Bryan Wight (11), and Justin Allen (11) advanced to semi-state. To advance, wrestlers had to place in the top four of their weight division at both sectional and regional competition.

After their coach, Mike Weaver, retired from teaching after last year, the team began a search for a new coach, and gained a new asset in Randy Persely.

Even with strong underclassmen, the team will be working to overcome the loss of last year's seniors. Graduates J.R. Horst, who won the heavyweight title at last year's Wawasee Invitational, and Doug Conrad, who had a victory at the Concordia Tournament, have left an atmosphere of drive and determination to the teammates they left behind.

Last year's loss to Bellmont, the Spartan's toughest competitor, has provided a goal for the boys to strive for.

"We were mad," said Demetrious Lewis (10). "We worked so hard the week before, and we thought we had them."

In addition to their incentive to beat Bellmont in the upcoming season, the team has even higher aspirations.

"Our team goals are to win a sectional championship because we have not won one since 1998," Andrew Callahan (10) said. " Also just to get better all around and to improve more as a team."

See them in action:

Nov. 25	*@ Dekalb*
Dec. 6	*Dekalb "C" Tourney*
Dec. 9	*Norwell*
Dec. 13	*@New Haven*
Dec. 16	*Wayne*
Dec. 15	*Northrop "C" Tourney*
Dec. 18	*East Noble*
Dec. 20	*Wawasee*

Bowling

jessica bird
writer

With coaches Mark and Lori Burbrink, both the girls and boys bowling teams are steadily preparing to strike out the competition with a successful season, comparable to last year's.

Last season the girls placed second at sectionals and advanced to regionals. Individually, Sara Rademaker (graduate 2003) advanced to semi-state. The boys team, however, did not advance out of sectionals, but Jon Wagner (graduate 2003) went on in individual competition.

Seniors Nathan Ott and Matt Burbrink are expected to lead the boys team through a profitable season. The team has also found very skilled bowlers in the freshman class, such as Bill Ewart.

"Last year, we only lost two seniors, but we lost a few juniors also," TJ Kindshy (11) said, "We have some good talent from the underclassmen and I- think that it should be a pretty good season."

Apart from the boys team, the girls, with only a few veteran bowlers, are excited about the future season.

"We've got almost a whole new team," said girls coach L. Burbrink. "We lost four seniors after last season, so this year we will focus on rebuilding the team."

With experienced team members such as Stephanie Savage (12) and Amanda Pasquali (11), Burbrink is hopeful that new talents such as Michelle Patterson (11) will develop games their throughout the season and make it a successful one.

Five bowlers from the team compete at a time, and individual scores are compiled; which ever team has the highest score wins five points. Each game is worth ten points and each set of teams bowls two games. The teams practice at their home lanes, ProBowl West. Ever since practices began in the first week of October, team expectations have begun to form.

"Our team goals are just to end up either first or second [in regular competition], Kindshy said, "Also to go to state."

Boys Swim and Dive

tracy kosmala
writer

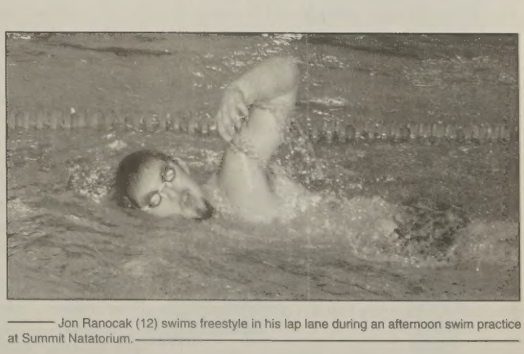
The outlook for this year's boys swim team is optimistic. Ranked second in state with a projected 97 points, the boys are hoping to give Carmel a run for their estimated 226 points. The other top teams include: Penn third (83 points), Chesterton fourth (60), and Northridge fifth (58).

The individual rankings for the team also look very promising. In the 200 freestyle sophomore Andrew Hoffman is ranked eighth, and David Frebel (12) is in fourteenth place. The 100 butterfly, a strong event for the boys, has three ranked swimmers. Joe Colley (12) is second to Carmel's Grant Wieczorek. The other butterfly swimmers include Jon Ranochak (12) ranked fifth and Phil Tapp (11) is ranked nineteenth. In the 100 backstroke Joe Colley is again ranked second; preceded only by Jeffersonville swimmer Ben Hesen. Pat Laughlin, only a sophomore, is also ranked eleventh in the 100 backstroke. The 200 IMer, Brent Graham (11), is fourteenth. Frebel is projected to be fifth in the 100 freestyle. After graduating senior Reed Hoppus last year, the only state ranked Homestead swimmer in the 100 breaststroke is Brendan O'Hara (10) in twentieth place. Hoffman's name appears again in the rankings as sixth in the 500 freestyle, along with Graham in ninth.

The boys, under the leadership of its five senior captains, Kyle Mundell, Jason Walley, David Frebel, Sean Miller, Joe Colley, and Jon Ranochack, hope to put in a good showing this year against local competition including Snider this year.

Upcoming meets

Dec. 2	*@ East Noble*
Dec. 11	*@ Snider*
Dec. 13	*HHS Invitational*
Dec. 16	*@ Bellmont*
Dec. 20	*@ Northridge*



Jon Ranocak (12) swims freestyle in his lap lane during an afternoon swim practice at Summit Natatorium.

4b

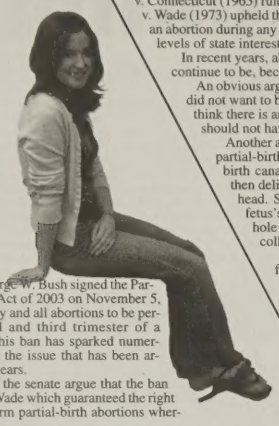
November 21, 2003

the Spartana VERBOSE

(vər-bos) adj. Using or contianing an excessive number of words; wordy

Partial-birth abortion Ban Act of 2003

Joanna Rogers - Editor in Chief



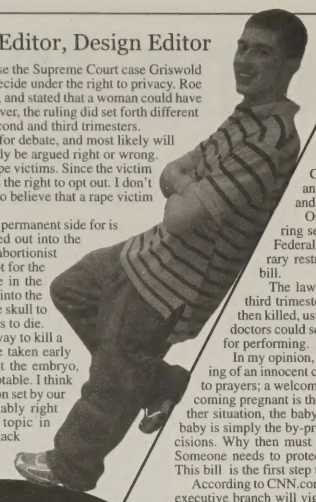
When President George W. Bush signed the Partial-birth abortion Ban Act of 2003 on November 5, he made it illegal for any and all abortions to be performed in the second and third trimester of a woman's pregnancy. This ban has sparked numerous new debates about the issue that has been argued for nearly seven years.

Several members of the senate argue that the ban is a violation of Roe v. Wade which guaranteed the right of abortionists to perform partial-birth abortions wherever they see fit.

Though I agree that there might be severe cases in which a mother and child both might die unless the procedure takes place, I strongly commend President Bush's decision to ban this type of abortion. Several politicians have been arguing that in most cases, the woman is in danger of her life if the abortion is not performed. In many cases, however, woman undergo this abhorrent procedure without any risk to their lives. For some, it is simply an easy out to an eighteen year inconvenience.

It amazes me how willing people are to abolish a human's life without even considering the type of people these small babies may have become. What if Leonardo daVinci, who was born out of wed-lock, had been aborted or even Albert Einstein? Think of the contributions these people made to the world. Now think of the numerous lives that are being ended before they have hardly begun.

Josh Zurawski - Sports and Views Editor, Design Editor



From a Constitutional standpoint, abortion is legal because the Supreme Court case Griswold v. Connecticut (1965) ruled that it's the woman's right to decide under the right to privacy. Roe v. Wade (1973) upheld the Griswold v. Connecticut ruling, and stated that a woman could have an abortion during any trimester of the pregnancy. However, the ruling did set forth different levels of state interest for regulating abortion in the second and third trimesters.

In recent years, abortion has become the hot topic for debate, and most likely will continue to be, because the idea of abortion can easily be argued right or wrong.

An obvious argument for allowing abortion is rape victims. Since the victim did not want to become pregnant, she should have the right to opt out. I don't think there is any argument that would lead me to believe that a rape victim should not have the chance of abortion.

Another abortion topic that I have chosen a permanent side for is partial-birth abortion. The fetus is first pulled out into the birth canal by its legs with forceps. The abortionist then delivers the baby's entire body except for the head. Scissors are used to create a hole in the fetus's skull. A catheter is then inserted into the hole to suck out the brains, causing the skull to collapse, effectively causing the fetus to die.

Partial-birth abortion is a cruel way to kill a fetus. An abortion pill that can be taken early on in the pregnancy to flush out the embryo, which is not yet a fetus, is acceptable. I think the ban on partial-birth abortion set by our government was the undeniably right thing to do concerning a topic in which there is usually no black and white, only gray.

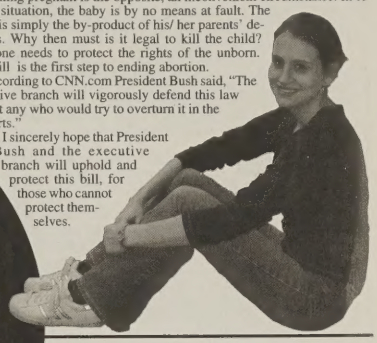
Mary Rozman - Associate Editor

"For years, a terrible form of violence has been directed against children who are inches from birth while the law looked the other way," President George Bush said as reported by CNN.com. "Today at last the American people and our government have confronted the violence and come to the defense of the innocent child."

On November 5, President Bush signed a bill barring second and third trimester abortions. Since then, Federal judges in three U.S. states have issued temporary restraining orders against enforcement of the new bill.

The law specifically bans abortions in the second and third trimester in which the baby is partially delivered, and then killed, usually by puncturing the skull.Under the new bill, doctors could serve up to two years, in addition to civil lawsuits for performing.

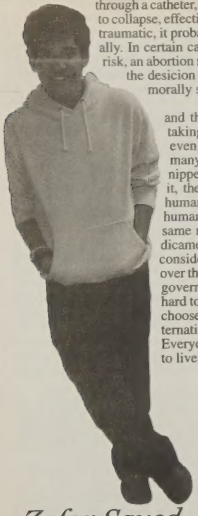
In my opinion, abortion for any reason is immoral. It is the killing of an innocent child. For many, becoming pregnant is an answer to prayers; a welcome addition to a family. For others, however, becoming pregnant is the opposite, an inconvenient circumstance. In either situation, the baby is by no means at fault. The baby is simply the by-product of his/ her parents' decisions. Why then must is it legal to kill the child? Someone needs to protect the rights of the unborn. This bill is the first step to ending abortion.



According to CNN.com President Bush said, "The executive branch will vigorously defend this law against any who would try to overturn it in the courts."

I sincerely hope that President Bush and the executive branch will uphold and protect this bill, for those who cannot protect themselves.

Abortion has perhaps been of the most controversial topics of this decade - spurring not only intense debates around the country, but in certain instances, violence as well. The recent law passed by the federal court to ban all partial birth abortions, reflects new views regarding the morality of killing an unborn fetus. While this issue may not have a definitve right or wrong, I would have to, for the most part, agree with our government's desicion. If you perhaps consider what a partial birth abortion entails, you too may agree with me. The operation involves delivering the unborn fetus, sucking the brain out through a catheter, and allowing the skull of the baby to collapse, effectively killing the fetus. If this sounds traumatic, it probably is - both physically and emotionally. In certain cases, where the mother's life may be at risk, an abortion may be a neccessary desicion. However, the desicion to outlaw such an extreme operation is morally sound. Killing is killing after all.



Let's also not forget that the hundreds and thousands of young lives whom we are taking through abortion are not allowed to even realize their potenial. Who knows how many future geniuses are being prematurely nipped in the bud. When it comes down to it, the issue is really about the value of human life. If you believe that a fetus is human, then shouldn't it be granted the same rights as you and me? The predicament becomes ever greater when considering who has the final say over the unborn baby's future -- the government, or the mother? Its hard to imagine why one would choose abortion over other alternatives such as adoption. Everyone deserves the right to live.

Zafar Sayed - News Editor

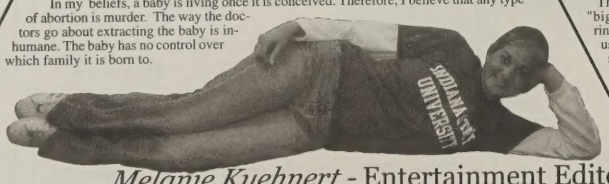
Partial birth abortions,once again, took some research. I learned the specifics about the brutal procedure. For those who don't know, a partial birth abortion usually is performed in the second trimester. The baby is pulled out of the mother's cervix, then a doctor punctures the baby's skull and proceeds to vacuum the brains out, essentially killing the baby. This process is called a "D&X," dilate and extract.

In congress, President Bush passed a legislation to ban partial-birth abortions, called the Partial Birth Abortion Ban Act of 2003. On the state level, Nebraska passed the same type of legislation, but restricted the ban to the four doctors who filed the lawsuit.

Opposition is based upon the law being unconstitutional because the Act doesn't address the exception of the mother's health. For instance, if an abortion is "needed" to protect the mother, the law doesn't address whether this is legal or not.

I believe a woman has a right to her body and her choice,but, its to no fault of the baby that it was conceived.

In my beliefs, a baby is living once it is conceived. Therefore, I believe that any type of abortion is murder. The way the doctors go about extracting the baby is inhumane. The baby has no control over which family it is born to.



Melanie Kuehnert - Entertainment Editor

When it passed the partial-birth abortion ban, the Senate opened a Pandora's box of different emotions and opinions on abortion. While many people have been discussing the decision on the basis of the right to have an abortion, there is an even larger issue to consider in this situation: why is the government even involved in this situation?

Preceding the Senate's action, President Bush had urged Congress to pass the partial-birth abortion ban and said that he would sign the bill into law. In addition, the Republicans have been pushing for the ban since they took control of the House of Representatives in 1995.

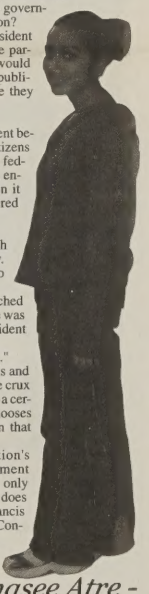
This is a quintessential example of the government becoming too involved in the everyday affairs of citizens and overstepping the boundary between state and federal government. For example, the administration encroached on state government responsibility when it passed the No Child Left Behind Act, and it hindered personal freedoms by passing the Patriot Acts.

This trend continued when President Bush signed the partial birth abortion bill into law. Why is it appropriate for the government to intrude in this aspect of people's lives?

The Republican Party has always preached against big government. In fact, while he was campaigning for office in 2000, President Bush asserted, "Big government is not the answer . . ."

But it seems as if sometimes it is and sometimes it is not. And this is the crux of the problem - a party preaches a certain principle, but picks and chooses according to its beliefs when that principle is applied.

The Bush administration's "big government" argument rings hollow when it is only used against causes it does not believe in. As Francis Bacon once stated, "Constancy is the foundation of virtue."



Manasee Atre - Copy Editor

The Editorial Review

The Scholastic Aptitude Test, more commonly known as the SAT, is often a deciding factor in college admissions. For many, performing well on this test involves months of studying and hard work. The SAT measures mathematical and verbal reasoning abilities. The Pre Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT) , which was administered to sophomores and juniors on Tuesday, is one beneficial study aid. The PSAT measures mathematical, verbal reasoning abilities, and writing. Juniors and sophomores are able to use the PSAT as an indicator of how they will perform on the SAT. Many schools do not offer the PSAT at all, and students are fortunate that it is offered here.

Editorial Board Vote: 6 For, 0 Against

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The Spartana is a monthly production of the Journalism 3/4 class at Homestead High School. Its purpose is to educate, enlighten, and entertain. *The Spartana* has and may continue to operate as a limited open forum for the free exchange of ideas.

Profanity may appear in *the Spartana* with the approval of the adviser, but only in cases of direct quotations or if it is necessary for clarity. Material which is libelous or obscene and could cause substantial and material disruption, as defined by the Supreme Court, will not be printed.

Pubic input will be accepted in the form of letters to the editor. Letters must follow standards concerning liable or obscenity. Those which could cause substantial and material disruption, as defined by the Supreme Court, will not be printed.

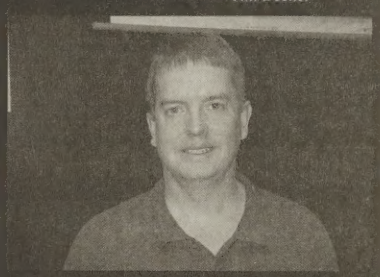
Staff members of *the Spartana* support the First Amendment rights and oppose censorship in any form. The content of the paper is determined by the student staff. In cases of potentially controversial material the editorial board will meet to decide the content of the newspaper. Students will be assisted by the adviser in areas of professional ethics and legalities.

Letters to the Editor

Rod,

I just wanted to tell you and your staff that the article which appeared in the Spartana on [October 24] about my Kuwait experiences was well done. I was very impressed with the article and the layout of the page. I liked the typical day at home and Kuwait - that was a neat addition. Thank you so much for that well-written article. It will go into my scrapbook of my experience.

-Tim Decker



Social studies teacher Tim Decker was featured in the October 24 issue of the Spartana due to his service in the United States Armed Forces in Kuwait during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Have your voice heard...
TheSpartana@aol.com

Image obsession

Most students attend semi-formal dance for the wrong reasons

dillon kimmel
designer

It's that time of year again. Fall begins the mad dash as guys begin their swarms to find a date, desperately trying to get the girl of their dreams.

Semi-formal "preparation" is an overrated practice, and the guys and girls should seriously chill out. No one needs two or three designated "backups" if their first choice turns them down. A brand new suit or a $300 dress that will only be worn once isn't necessary either; nor are dinner reservations at Eddie Merlot's made three weeks in advance.

"Semi-formal 'preparation' is an overrated practice, and the guys and girls should seriously chill out... A brand new suit or a $300 dress that will only be worn once isn't necessary either..."

Girls are one "things" that make Semi-formal the experience it's supposed to be, but sometimes they can make it the most difficult experience. Their incessant need to know who's going with whom every second of the day sometimes makes it impossible to get the job of asking someone to the dance done. Everyone has their own opinion of whom their friends should go with, and no matter what that friend does, they end up making a hundred people upset with their choice. The pressure to pick the girl the rest of the student body expects you to is so intense that sometimes you just want to give up.

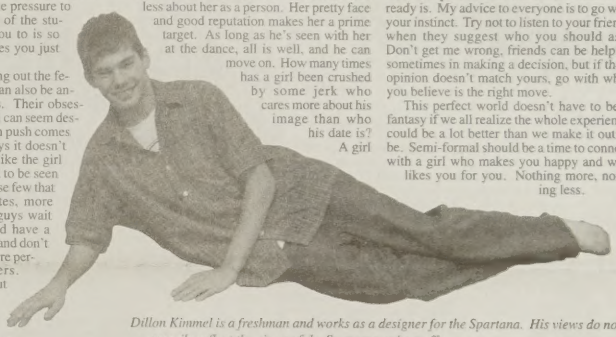
I'm not just singling out the females in this. Guys can also be annoying in other ways. Their obsession with getting a girl can seem desperate at times. When push comes to shove, to some guys it doesn't matter if they really like the girl or not - they just need to be seen with someone. To those few that do care for their dates, more power to you. You guys wait for the right girls and have a great time with them, and don't worry about how you're perceived by your peers. Many of the readers out there should take some advice from these guys. They understand the big picture.

I can imagine Semi-formal going as follows. A month before the big event the guy (let's call him Bob) asks a girl (let's call her Daisy) to Semi-formal. She's ecstatic that Bob would even think of her. Hurriedly, Daisy runs to the fanciest store in town, buys a nice dress, and plans the whole night. It's going to be just like she always imagined it would be: a romantic dinner followed by a great night of dancing and getting to know her date better. Little does she know, however, that Bob couldn't care less about her as a person. Her pretty face and good reputation makes her a prime target. As long as he's seen with her at the dance, all is well, and he can move on. How many times has a girl been crushed by some jerk who cares more about his image than who his date is? A girl deserves more than a fake invitation to a dance that will be second rate at anyway. For all the work girls do to make sure the night goes smoothly, they deserve our respect and affection.

The real reason for Semi-formal is much simpler than we make it. In a perfect world, the guy would ask a girl to the dance and would not base his decision solely on the opinions of his friends. And in a perfect world the girl would be content with whomever the guy chooses as his date for the dance. But, we don't live in that perfect world. In this world of inadequacy, the girls are intent on spreading and receiving as much gossip as possible. In this place of imperfection, the guys do not go with the girl of their dreams; they go with the girl who will help their image and popularity status among their friends and peers.

Some guys like to do it the right way the first time. They want to go with the girl whom they will have a good time with, and this will make them happy. To some, having a good time means more than having social status. The peer pressures we are faced with today can make life harder than it already is. My advice to everyone is to go with your instinct. Try not to listen to your friends when they suggest who you should ask. Don't get me wrong, friends can be helpful sometimes in making a decision, but if their opinion doesn't match yours, go with what you believe is the right move.

This perfect world doesn't have to be a fantasy if we all realize the whole experience could be a lot better than we make it out to be. Semi-formal should be a time to connect with a girl who makes you happy and who likes you for you. Nothing more, nothing less.



Dillon Kimmel is a freshman and works as a designer for the Spartana. His views do not necessarily reflect the views of the Spartana or its staff.

Media unfairly covers scandal

Bias evident in coverage of sexual harassment case involving local church pastor

christy landrigan
designer

A down and out prostitute intent on changing her ways makes her way to a respected institution where she knows she can make a new start. She stumbles on her words, finding it difficult to even ask the secretary to talk to the man in charge, but she finds them somehow, afraid to be judged, wanting desperately for someone to look at her as a human being again instead of a piece of meat. While she waits, she fidgets impatiently, feeling an almost childish impulse to bolt from the scene, to avoid having to confront her emotions that she has so long ignored, to avoid the confession to a person she barely knows. Is she doing the right thing?

Before she can run out the door, he comes, invites her into his office. After he is seated behind his desk, he calmly invites her to tell him her story, to take as much time as she needs. Petrified, she begins slowly, unable to bring her eyes up to meet his. I need money, she says, I have nothing now. Her words suddenly pour out in a torrent. She talks for almost an hour. When finally she has confessed everything, she looks up guiltily.

He is smiling at her a familiar smile that she has seen too often before, the smile that says "I don't care about you as long as your anatomy is intact." He asks her to prove to him that she is what she said. Terrified, she stands up and inches her way to the door, talking the whole time. It is happening in slow motion, but her thoughts rush through her mind like a waterfall. Not now, not again, she thinks, when finally she feels the surprisingly reassuring coldness of the door handle beneath her trembling hand. She tries to turn it, but it won't turn. He is moving toward her, like a tiger moves toward his prey. She screams, pleads, sobs, no, please, not now, not again.

Another helpless victim. Another sexual misconduct. Another member of the clergy.

Admit it. When the word "clergy" was preceded by "sexual misconduct," a mental association with the Catholic Church occurred in your mind. That is unfortunate, and also untrue. A scene very similar to this played out last month at a Protestant church office in the downtown area of your home city of Fort Wayne.

Have you an uncontrollable urge to vomit?

You're thinking: how could this man take advantage of his post? How could he take advantage of another human being who looks to him for help? And those are the questions that millions of Americans have asked themselves repeatedly as more cases of sexual abuse by Catholic priests are reported.

The question I had, upon hearing the accusations against the pastor was one that dealt with the Church itself, though not related to this particular case. Why have I heard about the same case in Boston too many times to count, and I have only heard about this case once, and at 6:40 in the morning when the story will reach few people? Why has this case been covered up by the media? I was unsuccessful in finding any information on this instance other than what I heard on the radio!

There is an undeniable focus by the media on the Catholic Church and it's "faults." Why is the Catholic Church getting the blame for members of its clergy, but not the church in downtown Fort Wayne?

One answer I came up with was that the Catholic Church is centralized, and there is something to attack, versus one isolated church in a small town. The Roman Catholic Church is nearly a government even; they have a capital, and the Pope is their elected leader. But still, according to this logic, if Catholics are being blamed for the sexual transgressions of its clergy because of its organization, why then are not we blaming our government for all transgressions?

Obviously, this wouldn't work, because a government can no better observe what goes on inside private dwellings (or in the case of Bill Clinton the Oval Office) than the Church can check what goes on in the private lives of priests. If we can't even tell what our own president is doing, how can the Catholic church be expected to regulate what its members do? The individual person is responsible, in any case, not any organization a person belongs to, especially an organization that condemns the act one performs!

I realize the main difference between a religious organization and the government is that one claims moral high ground, however, one expectation both share in common is that they protect its citizens and members. Therefore, if the Church is responsible for the transgressions of its members, the government should be responsible for the crimes of its citizens. Why, then, is the media failing also to attack our own government for child abuse, or murder, or any other crime? Because the idea of the government being responsible for every act of every citizen is ludicrous.

Another theory about why the media has focused so much on transgressions of Church officials: The Roman Catholic Church is a respected organization, and is trusted to protect the general public from harm. When it was discovered that clergy members are sexually abusing victims, the public was shocked and wanted to learn more. Therefore, the media was simply fueling a desire that the public had, responding to a public outrage, which is typical of the media. It makes sense for the media to sell what readers want to read about, but it saddens me that they would degrade a respectable institution in the meantime. The actions of a few members of the Church don't reflect the institution as a whole.

Theory number three: America is virtually founded on anti-Catholicism. The Pilgrims have their roots in a time where a wave of anti-Catholicism called the Reformation was sweeping Europe. All Protestant religions were based on a distaste for any and all things Catholic, and the common belief that Roman Catholicism was a religion based on falsehoods.

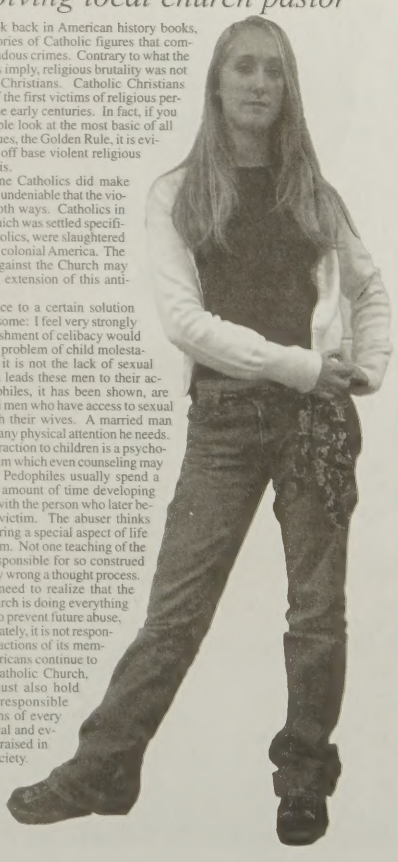
If you look back in American history books, you'll see stories of Catholic figures that committed horrendous crimes. Contrary to what the history books imply, religious brutality was not invented by Christians. Catholic Christians were some of the first victims of religious persecution in the early centuries. In fact, if you take one simple look at the most basic of all Christian values, the Golden Rule, it is evident how far off base violent religious enforcement is.

While some Catholics did make mistakes, it is undeniable that the violence went both ways. Catholics in Maryland, which was settled specifically for Catholics, were slaughtered in the days of colonial America. The media bias against the Church may simply be an extension of this anti-Catholicism.

In reference to a certain solution proposed by some: I feel very strongly that the abolishment of celibacy would not solve the problem of child molestation because it is not the lack of sexual attention that leads these men to their actions. Pedophiles, it has been shown, are often married men who have access to sexual attention with their wives. A married man has access to any physical attention he needs.

Sexual attraction to children is a psychological problem which even counseling may not reverse. Pedophiles usually spend a considerable amount of time developing a friendship with the person who later becomes their victim. The abuser thinks that he is sharing a special aspect of life with the victim. Not one teaching of the Church is responsible for so construed and obviously wrong a thought process.

America need to realize that the Catholic Church is doing everything in its power to prevent future abuse, but that ultimately, it is not responsible for the actions of its members. If Americans continue to blame the Catholic Church, then they must also hold themselves responsible for the actions of every elected official and every criminal raised in American society.



Christy Landrigan is a junior and works as a designer for the Spartana. Her views do not necessarily reflect the views of the Spartana or its staff.

the Spartana
EMINECE

(em´ə-n əs) n. a person of high station or great achievements

Football peaks during sectional

After starting the year off slowly, the football team gained enough speed going into the post-season to stack up a four game winning streak and a showing in the Sectional finals played against Snider

matt anderson
designer

By coming together and peaking at the conclusion of their season, the football team managed to bounce back from early season losses and make a strong run to the finals in their sectional.

Starting the season on a dismal note, the Spartans had to fight back from an early 1-2 record in order to finish 8-4. However, the team felt its real accomplishment this season was their post-season play as they managed to make it to the finals.

"After the early losses the team was pretty down," Duke Lines (12) said. "We had gone into the season with big hopes, but after the losses we were left doubting how much we could actually do. But when we made it to the finals, we felt that we proved that we were a good team, and that we did have the skills to win."

To prepare for the final game, the team practiced harder and worked longer. They wanted to match up better as a team and be completely prepared for the Snider team.

"The week leading up to the game against Snider, we practiced a lot harder," Mike Zee-Cheng (12) said. "We ended up staying later and watched a lot more film. We changed our offense a little for the game and added a couple new plays, but for the most part we left everything the same. We tried to approach the game like it was any other match up."

After reaching the finals, they had to play state-ranked Snider. Although the Spartans were the first to score after recovering an on-side kick, eventually Homestead fell 44-21.

"The loss was pretty upsetting," Lines said. "It was the seniors last game, and everyone had hoped that the score would have been a little closer. But on the other side of that, we realize that Snider is a good team which makes the loss a little easier to deal with."

Before playing Snider, the Spartans claimed two big victories against Huntington North and Marion. Homestead matched up against Marion in the first round and managed to get by with a 34-21 win. After Marion, they faced Huntington North. This was a team that the Spartans had already beaten. However, Huntington North was just coming off of a big win over a Warsaw team that had defeated Homestead in the second game of the season.

"We played Huntington North the first game of the year and we beat them pretty easily," Zee-Cheng said. "But coming into this game, we knew that their team had improved They were coming off winning their conference and wins over some big teams like Warsaw. So, we just put the first game out of our heads, and we prepared for the game just as hard as we would for any other team we play in the season."

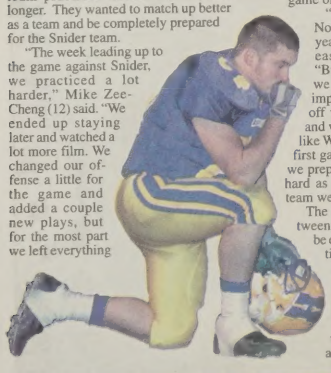
The first half of the game between the two teams proved to be extremely close with a half time score of 7-7, but the second half belonged to the Spartans. After the game concluded Homestead had out-scored the Vikings 24-0 in the last two quarters, winning by a score of 31-7.

"Going into the locker rooms at half time we just started fixing the things we needed to fix," Zee-Cheng said. "We realized it was do or die, and if we didn't go out and play the way we could, we would have to go home knowing football was over. So, everyone stepped their games up and took the game to a new level. I think it's obvious what the end result was."

Coming out of the Huntington North game, the Spartans were on a 4 game winning streak and achieved a bid to the finals. Although the end result of their next game was not exactly what they had hoped would happen, the team felt their last accomplishments were huge steps for the team.

Many of the players on the team were also awarded with accolades for their play this season. Five players were given 1st team All Conference, which was the second-largest number of players to be named this in the NHC. Tim Reed (11), Ryan Koepke (12), Jarrod Shaw (11), David Meyers (11), and Ryan Torres (12) all were named first team. Homestead also had two 2nd team players in Zee-Cheng and Kevin Bush (12). Ryan Chenoweth (11) was given honorable mention. Because of these individual awards, their strong run in sectional, and their continual improvement throughout the season, the football team feels that they have managed to accomplish more than some expected at the beginning of the year.

"After we had that rough start, we weren't sure how things would shake out for the season," Lines said. "But we practiced hard and kept improving, and by the end of the season, I think it showed."



photos / zach hetrick

Above: Tim Reed (11) attempts to run the ball through Snider defenders. Right: Quarterback Matt Witham (11) takes the snap from center Richard Roelke (12). Left: Brian Quigley (12) kneels on the sidelines during the Snider game. Below: Reed races down field.–

1st Team All Conference:

David Meyers (11), Linebacker

Ryan Koepke (12), Defensive End

Tim Reid (11), Fullback

Jarrod Shaw (11), Defensive Tackle

Ryan Torres (12), Corner Back

2nd Team All Conference:

Nick Zee-Cheng (12), Middle Line

Kevin Bush (12), Wide Receiver

Honorable Mention:

Ryan Chenoweth (11), Safety

the SPARTANA

Homestead High School 4310 Homestead Rd Fort Wayne, IN 46814

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Venturing through Italy

H-Unit?

Teachers have been told to keep an eye open for gang members, leaving students and faculty alike with questioning whether there are gangs lurking in our school

photo illustration / zach hetrick, josh zurawski, jason walley

greg karidas
business manager

Imagine a world where all that one knows is retaught, where all that one has come to love one is forced to hate, where a wrong move could be the difference between life or death, making death the only escape. Now stop imagining that world, because it does not exist at Homestead High School.

"There are no gangs, just a lot of wannabes," said Marc Wallace (12).

According to Wallace, and friend Steven Cirino (11), the Homestead administration bases gang activity on the way someone dresses. Wearing one color repeatedly (particularly blues and reds), wearing all jewelry on one side of the body, and rolling only one pant leg up are all ways a gang member may be identified.

"How am I any different from kids at Homestead that wear their letter jackets everyday?" asked Cirino.

On the other hand, Detective West says, dress is not the only factor that identifies gang activity. Detective West was invited to speak at a meeting regarding gang activity. The meeting's participants were students whose names came up in regard to gang relations. West went on to say, the meeting was used as an intimidation factor, and to educate students about the pitfalls of gangs.

Detectives also met with teachers to present information on what to look for in regard to gang activity. West also says it is important to encourage students who are concerned or hear something to contact someone, but to realize that "gangs are illegal in Indiana, and we can not have that in our schools."

"They (the administration) said we were threats. How am I a threat? I've never been in a fight, no less an argument," said Cirino.

According to several students that received letters to attend the meeting, singling out particular people is not the proper way of going about discussing the matter.

"If you looked around at the people there (at the meeting) they were all minorities." said Wallace.

Wallace went on to comment that he and the others that received letters to attend the meeting were considered to possibly be affiliated with gangs. However, Wallace and Cirino both made it very clear that they are not affiliated with a gang.

Detective West did say that gang activity has been somewhat of a concern in this area. Three particular gangs are the Vice Lords, Latin Kings, and Disciples.

"Don't you think since I was part of a gang in New York that I would be contacted by that gang here?" asked Cirino.

Cirino is a new student to Homestead this year. He came to Fort Wayne after getting himself into some trouble, particularly with his grades. Therefore, his aunt believed it would be best for him to move away from that environment and start over here.

"Me, personally, I was part of the Latin Kings. I'll be honest, I was in a gang," explained Cirino.

Cirino explained some of the things he saw in New York during his gang experience. Things such as guns, knives, and beat downs in the streets.

"If you had a problem with another group, you took care of it," said Cirino. "I was one of the lucky ones."

Cirino continued saying once a person is in a gang that person is never out. He made it clear that he left to get away from it.

Cirino also brought up the point of security by asking "If they (once again the administration) is so concerned about gangs in our school why don't they do something serious about it?"

He followed his question by saying, "At my school in New York we had metal detectors, cops everywhere, I mean you couldn't go through the halls without getting searched. And that to me is fine, I have nothing to hide."

The general approach to gangs taken by many of the students is that there are none, and things are being blown way out of proportion. Gangs or not, there is an evident clash between students accused of gang activity, and the Administration.

christy landrigan
designer

Typically, gangster activity is associated with inner city schools, but recently, a large number of students at Homestead received letters informing them that they were under suspicion of being in a gang.

"At every school, there is some gang of some sort. We are not immune," said Johnson.

Lake, who taught at Homestead before becoming assistant principal, stated that often gang activity is difficult to detect if one is unaware of the signs.

"I taught here for over 16 years and never had a clue," he said. "It's crazy."

Many schools discipline as a problem occurs, whereas at Homestead, the administrators are attempting to curb the problem before it becomes serious.

"We're one of the first school systems to have a proactive approach," Johnson said. "Usually what schools do is handle the discipline as the trouble comes." Lake added, "We are making a conscious effort to inform the community, especially parents."

The letters were sent by the sheriff's department, with whom the discipline office has collaborated closely, in an effort to inform students and parents of potential gang activity. Those who received letters attended an informative meeting with their parents.

"We had a meeting with the sheriff's department," Johnson said. "...Our relationship with the sheriff's department...allows us to do our job a lot better."

According to the letter, wearing blue multiple days in a row was one of the criteria for suspicion. Though both men acknowledged that the letters were worded stronger than may have been necessary, they asserted that the letters were not meant to offend anyone.

"We understand that students have different ways of dressing, and we respect it. But if we see that a student is repeatedly dressing in a fashion similar to what a gang member might wear, we will contact the student and parent," said Lake.

All in all, the men are looking out for the general good of Homestead students, as Johnson observed.

"We have a great school here. We just want to make sure that students are able to get a good education. We're certainly not out to get anyone."

"Ladies and gentlemen...we got him"

Longtime Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein captured Sunday outside Tirkit will be brought to justice for war crimes, crimes against humanity, says Bush.

kasey butcher
associate news editor

"Ladies and gentlemen, we got him." Such simple words, spoken by Ambassador L. Paul Bremer in a press conference brought irrepressible joy to millions of people in Iraq and around the world on Sunday, December 14.

The longtime dictator of Iraq, Saddam Hussein was found in a cramped "spider hole" six to eight feet deep on a ranch nine miles outside his hometown of Tikrit. Saddam, 66, is the "Ace of Spades" in the government issued deck of wanted regime figures. Saddam is also number one on the coalition's list of 55 most-wanted regime members.

600 members of the 4th Infantry Division along with special operations forces from Task Force 121 lead the capture. They found Saddam's hiding spot under a rug in a small, two-room hut.

"I am Saddam Hussein," the man reportedly said as he was found. "I am the president of Iraq, and I want to negotiate."

Soldiers allegedly responded, "President Bush sends his regards."

The future of the fallen dictator is uncertain, but Bush vowed that he will be brought to justice.

"Good riddance," Bush said in a press conference on Monday, December 15. "The world is better off without you, Mr. Saddam Hussein...I find it very interesting that when the heat got on, you dug yourself a hole, and you crawled in it...And our brave troops, combined with good intelligence, found you, and you'll be brought to justice, something you did not afford the people you brutalized in your own country...This is a transforming event. The emergence of a peaceful Iraq will transform the region, in a positive way, that will make it more likely that the world is peaceful."

Saddam will be given a trial by jury and will be prosecuted for war crimes and crimes against humanity. These crimes include genocide against the Kurds, and the torture and killing of political foes.

Saddam, who is reportedly "surrendered to his fate," is denying association with terrorists as well as any possession of weapons of mass destruction. Saddam is not expected to be cooperative with interrogators.

Much information is still to be gained through investigation into Saddam's crimes and further questioning other regime members. The future of the Iraqi dictator, however, is still undecided.

the Spartana
PITHY
(pĭth′e) adj. concisely meaningful

Spartan Briefs

Semester Finals

Semester finals for the first two nine weeks will be held on Wednesday January 14th, Thursday January 15th, and Friday January 16th for students grades 9-12. Class Periods in which students will test are as follows: Wednesday, January 14th, students will test periods 1 and 2, Thursday, January 15th, students will test during periods 3, 4, and 6, and on Friday, January 16th, students will test in periods 5 and 7.

Middle School Journalism

The middle school journalism students received two awards and individual awards also. Woodside's two publications both received awards. These awards have never been earned before in the school's history. Woodside's student newspaper won first place at this year's Ball State journalism day. Woodside's yearbook also took home first place in its category. Furthermore, Zach Hetrick won an individual first place award for his sports photography.

Spartana Award

The Spartana, Homestead's student newspaper, was honored with a special award. *The Spartana* was given the National Pacemaker Award. This award is given to only 16 High Schools in the U.S. Homestead has only won this award once before. Last year, Homestead was a finalist for the award, but the staff did not receive it. Two plaques were given to Principal Moake on behalf of the award.

Columbus Shootings

Police are continuing their investigation on the shootings that are occurring along a 5 mile stretch of I-270 near Columbus, Ohio. Authorities have linked 15 shootings to this so called "sniping" case. One fatality has occurred since the shooting began. Police are using special tactics to determine where the shots are coming from. Transportation officials have also installed cameras on the highway. Police urge people who think they may have been struck by a bullet to keep driving, but they also say that the victims should call the police immediately.

Make-Up Work

A revision has been made to the make-up work policy at Homestead. Now, make-up work will be offered to all students' absences, but credit will be allowed only for the absences that are excused or counted as present. As was always the policy, the teacher will decided the type of make-up work that is given. Students will be given one day for each missed day to complete the make-up work, plus an additional day, up to seven days.

Self-Defense Course

Student Government and SADD have sponsored a self-defense class for girls in the senior class who want to learn ways to protect themselves before they leave for college. The class, Rape Aggression Defense (RAD), has a set curriculum and is taught by certified RAD instructors Larry and Angie White. Twenty-two seniors signed up for the class, which began meeting on December 8. The class will continue to meet every Monday after school into January.

Financial Aid

A financial aid meeting for parents of seniors will be held on January 22. The meeting will focus on how to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FASFA), and parents are asked to bring their FASFA forms to the meeting. FASFA applications must be received by the federal processor by March 10.

We The People

The first period We The People class received fifth place at the state We The People competition. The competition was held on December 15 in Indianapolis at IUPUI, and the class competed against twelve other schools. The team also received the unit award. The unit award is given to the best team among those that do not place.

Teaching Award

Convington Elementary School teacher Marti Hoppus recently received National Board Certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. Hoppus teaches special education. Hoppus was one of sixteen teachers in Indiana who received the honor this year. There are a total of 105 National Board Certified Teachers in Indiana.

School News

School delays and closing will be announced by the local television stations and radio stations before 6:00 a.m. They will also be posted on the Southwest Allen County website: www.sacs.k12.in.us. along with the websites for the TV stations.

Calendar

12.22 Winter Vacation begins. 1.14 Semester exams commence. 1.19 Martin Luther King Jr. Day. 1.20 Winter play performed. 1.21 Second semester starts. 1.23 Report cards mailed home.

Divide and conquer

SADD divides into four sections to fight substance abuse, violence

jessica bird
writer

Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) provides the student body with a way of voicing their opinions on current issues facing today's teens. The SADD organization includes four clusters: Students Working Against Alcohol (SWAA), Students Working Against Drugs (SWAD), Students Working Against Tobacco (SWAT), and Students Working Against Violence (SWAV).

The members of the SWAA cluster of SADD help to prevent the abuse of alcohol by educating students about the effects of alcohol in a non-judgmental way.

The members of the SWAD cluster of SADD provide students with information about the impact drugs make on one's life now and in the future, including the impact drugs have on the family and friends of a user. After gaining this researched knowledge, the members of the cluster help inform peers.

"We [SWAD] did Red Ribbon Week," Katie Lelonek (10) said. "We put ribbons on antennas of cars in the parking lots and at the end of the week and we chose a winner who won a year membership to the new YMCA."

The members of the SWAT cluster of SADD try to reduce the effects of the targeted advertising towards teens by "Big Tobacco", to educate teens about "Big Tobacco", and to encourage students to take a stand against "Big Tobacco."

"[Now] we are working on a project, mainly to educate other students about tobacco and the Big Tobacco companies," Carolyn Rhodebeck (10) said.

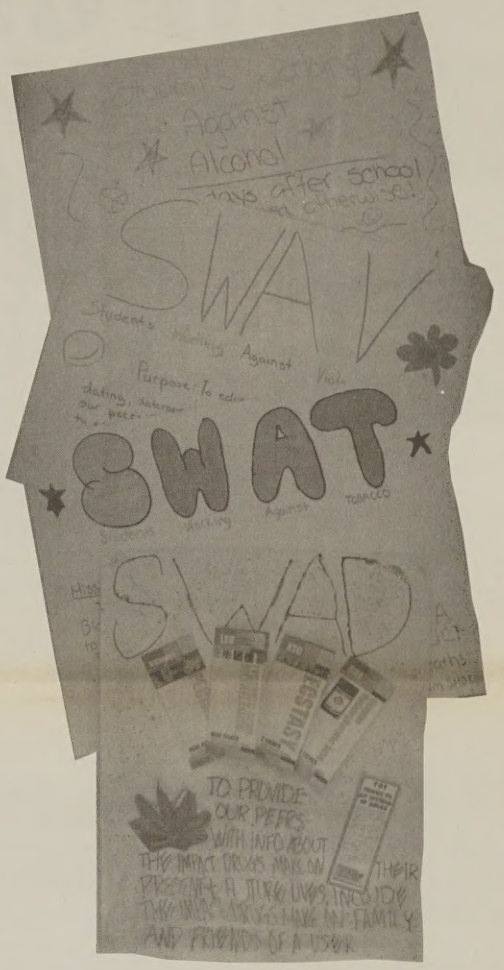
The SWAV cluster of SADD helps to inform students about dating safety and date rape. They also work to discourage students from participating in dating violence and to encourage students to build a positive self-image and self confidence.

"Right now we are working with student government to promote the Rape Aggression Defense (RAD) classes for senior girls by making flyers, posters, and having announcements on it every morning," Jillian Howell (12) said. "There is a display right across from Student Services that has all [other] information about SADD."

Each month, SADD has different activities to help inform their peers about what is going on in each cluster. For the month of December, SADD has many activities planned such as National Drunk & Drugged (3D) Prevention Month, Tree of Life Campaign, Lights on for Life, and Gift of a Lifetime. Other main activities through the course of the year include bagel sales, self defense workshops for women, an antismoking lollipop give away, a limo ride for Morp, Prom Promise, a t-shirt design contest, and a button design contest

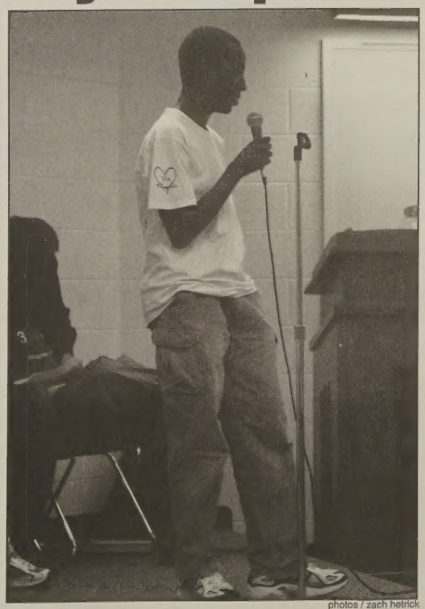
"Although SADD members try to work hard to make an impact on the student body, some [students] that are under the influence of drugs and alcohol aren't influenced," Lelonek said.

For all SADD clusters, the goal is not to judge the user, but to judge the destructive product, and to educate the student body about the dangers of them. SADD's mission statement states, "To provide students with the best prevention and intervention tools possible to deal with the issues of underage drinking, drunk driving, drug abuse, and other destructive decisions."



The posters of each of the SADD clusters is pictured above. The four clusters are Students Working Against Alcohol (SWAA), Students Working Against Drugs (SWAD), Students Working Against Tobacco (SWAT), and Students Working Against Violence (SWAV).

Key Club plans holiday projects



photos / zach hetrick

Nathan Menza (10), Key Club's Builder's Club Advisor, discusses volunteer activities at the Key Club meeting on December 4. Builder's Club, a volunteer organization for students at Summit and Woodside, is outgrowth of Key Club.

rohith iyer
associate copy editor

With the holiday season rapidly approaching, the Key Club has set up a number of new projects in and around the community.

One of the major holiday projects this year will be the "Bell Ringin" at Apple Glen Wal-Mart on December 13. This project is an annual battle between students and the Kiwanis, an adult organization that sponsors Key Club. Both groups, adults and students, will ring bells for charity on December 13. The team who brings in the most donations will be declared the winner. All donations will be donated to the Salvation Army in Fort Wayne, an organization that's mission, is to reach out to the poor, the troubled and the disadvantaged .

Key Club Junior Representative David Gehrig will be participating in the "Bell Ringin" project at Apple Glen Wal-Mart.

"I enjoy working with the Kiwanis," Gehrig said. "It's for a good cause, and the money goes to the salvation army."

Kurt Vlot serves as the Kiwanis Representative to the Key Club, and will participate in the "Bell Ringin" on the adult team.

"This is our third year doing this," Vlot said. "It's a fun competition for charity. We are tied up one to one, so this year will be the tie break."

As the day will be cold and blustery, both teams will divide into groups, and will work in shifts rather than all at once.

Along with this project, the Key Club will also be working with Turnstone, an organization that cares for mentally disabled children. The Key Club plans to throw a party for the children over the holidays.

Apart from the Student Government, Key Club is also participating in their own Adopt A Family project, which will help needy families to have Christmas gifts and other necessary items.

Another major project that Key Club members participate in is at Cedars, a home for mentally ill women. Located in downtown Fort Wayne, the home is a place where mentally ill women can live together with some independence, while also having some of their needs taken care of. The house has a running kitchen along with bedrooms and bathrooms, which are shared among the residents. The women keep their belongings, but at the same time all live together. There are people who watch after the house and make sure everything is running smoothly for the residents.

Key Club members visit the residents at Cedars home once a week. During their visits, members liven up the atmosphere by playing games with the residents, and doing odd jobs around the home. Key Club President Jon Lubkert (10) actively participates in this weekly project.

"Cedars allows you to interact with mentally ill women in many different ways," Lubkert said. "We usually play cards with them or just talk to get to know them better."

As the holiday season is approaching fast, the members of Key Club continue to give back to their community in efforts to give others a happy holiday season.

(v-pəis'd)tr. to give notice to; inform

The Spectator
APPRISED

3a
December 19, 2003

Holiday concert brings a jingle to the start of the season

photo / zach hetrick

Class Royale performed for parents and students at the holiday concert. In addition to Class Royale, the concert also included Concert Choir, Elite Show Choir, Jazz Band, and Orchestra.

suhasini bhargava
associate entertainment editor

Continuing a tradition for the sixth year in a row, the choral department and the orchestra ended the annual fine arts holiday concert with the performance of the "Hallelujah Chorus" from the "Messiah." Concert Choir, Elite Show Choir, and Class Royale Show Choir joined together to sing the last song of the show, "Carol of the Bells."

The holiday concert featuring several Fine Arts Department ensembles included performances by the Jazz Band, the Orchestra, and all three choirs. The concert commenced with the Jazz Band playing "Jingle Bell Rock" arranged by Jerry Nowak. The Jazz Band is an ensemble comprising alto, baritone and tenor saxophonists, trumpeters, trombonists, guitarists, bassists, drummers, and pianists. The jazz band is directed by Steve Barber. After beginning the concert with a festive piece, the band played "On Green Dolphin Street" arranged by Les Hooper. This piece featured soloists Trent Gard (11) on the alto saxophone, John Blevins (11) on the trumpet, Ben Deschner (11) on the trumpet, Matt Corral (12) on the piano, and Alex Kroh (12) on the drum set. The jazz band finished its portion of the holiday concert by playing "Mode Man" by Mark Taylor.

"It [Mode Man] was a tough song and we got through it pretty good," Deschner said.

The Jazz Band was followed by the girls from Concert Choir. The sopranos and altos from Concert Choir sang "Do you believe in magic?" as an opener for their part of the program. The tenors and the baritones joined the girls in the performance of "Let there be music" by France Williams, and "Letting Go" by Leslie Bricusse and Frank Wilhorn. "Letting Go" featured soloist Hillary McBride (10). The concert choir's last two songs included "Festival of Lights," and "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas."

"I thought we did a lot better than we did at the fall concert, " McBride said.

Directed by choral director Rosalie Byrne, show choirs Elite and Class Royale followed the Concert Choir. Elite showcased the ballad from the fall show "Hopelessly devoted to you" as an opener. Next, the girls sang a short song about the festivities of Hanukkah. The third number, a tropical Christmas carol featured soloists Amanda McCarty (11), Laura Replogle (9), Christine Goshert (12), and Megan Hoffman (12). Elite's last number, "Fruitcake" proved to be a mix of humor and musical talent as the girls demonstrated to the audience how to bake fruitcake.

"I think we did really well and the audience really enjoyed it," Elite member Heather Hanford (10) said.

The last choral group to perform was Class Royale. Class Royale commenced with a lively piece "Ding Dong Merrily on High" arranged by Joyce Barthelson. The group also sang "One Special Night (A Celebration of Hannukah)", "White Christmas," and "Festival Gloria." To add a hint of Christmas fun, Class Royale sang "Santa Claus is Coming to Town." Additionally, Class Royale performed "The Twelve Days of Christmas." This altered version of the original song included props such as rubber gloves, feathers, drum sticks, and axes.

The Symphonic Orchestra joined Class Royale in the presentation of "And the Glory of the Lord" from the "Messiah" by George Frideric Handel. The Orchestra also accompanied all three choirs in the singing of the "Hallejuah Chorus." The last feature of the evening was the singing of the Ukrainian Carol "Carol of Bells" by all three choirs.

"Playing the Hallelujah Chorus is special because the audience really likes it and they react to it," Orchestra member Allison Cosbey (12) said.

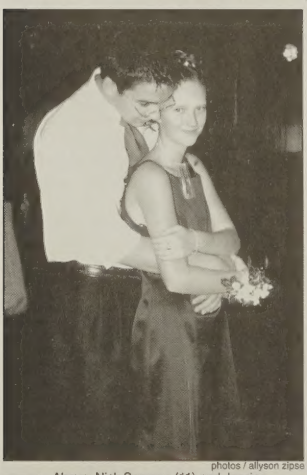
Audience members were able to enjoy a musical night during the holiday season with instrumental music and vocals.

" [I enjoyed] all the holiday music," audience member Anna Rodenbeck (9) said.

photo / zach hetrick

Alex Kroh (12) plays the drum set for the jazzband at the Holiday Concert.

Semi-Formal jazzes up the night with "roaring twenties" theme



photos / allyson zipse

Above: Nick Sperone (11) and Jessica Baughn (10) dance slowly during one of the many. Below: Drew Hadley (11), Keri Spergenson (11), Amber Roenben (11), and Aimee Norton (11) take time off from the dance to relax and talk about the evening's events thus far.

katie corson
writer

Once every winter, many of Homestead's students make plans for a special evening out. Girls spend hours looking for a dress, shoes, and jewelry, while guys dig through the closet for their coat and tie. Then dinner reservations are made and tickets are bought. All of this occurred in preparation for Homestead's annual Semi-Formal held on December 6.

The theme for this year's event was the 1920s, titled "All That Jazz." In keeping with the theme, the entrance to the hall was decorated with cut-outs of famous figures from the '20s. Also, the inside of the hall was decorated with small white lights, including a large chandelier in the center.

"The guys really wanted to do a Casino Night theme, but not many of the girls really liked that idea. As we were discussing it, we somehow went from Casino to '20s, which everyone seemed to like, so that's what we decided on," Megan Hoffmann (12) said.

After being in charge of last year's Prom night, this year Hoffmann oversaw Semi-Formal.

"Juniors [in student government] plan Prom, and seniors plan Semi-Formal," Hoffmann said. "There are different groups of people that do decorations and such, but basically I oversee everything. Then anything else that doesn't get done, I take care of."

The only decision the students do not make themselves is where to host the event. Since Semi-Formal occurs in the mist of many other holiday parties and events, the location for the evening must be selected and booked by Mr. Maher many months in advance.

Originally, student government planned on having two contests during the evening, a best-dressed contest as well as a swing dance contest. However, a few weeks before Semi-Formal, the swing dance contest was canceled. The seniors decided that swing dancing was more popular during the 1940s and really did not seem to fit the '20s theme.

The best-dressed contest, on the other hand, was a success.

"The contest gives the DJs [Dave Stadinski and Andy Mackeman from "Rhythm Assault"] a break, but still keeps the students interested in what is going on," Hoffmann said. "It is also a good way to get people involved in the theme for the night."

In order to participate, students had to sign up before the contest. Then, during the evening, participants were called up onto the stage. Applause and noise made by the audience determined the top three finalists. Chaperones then decided which students received first, second, and third place. Brooke Parish was the first place winner of the contest.

"As a whole, I was really pleased with how everything came together. I was a little nervous, because I did not get a chance to see everything before hand," Hoffmann said. "I would not have changed anything about this year's Semi-Formal. It was not exactly what I pictured, but I was very happy with how everything turned out."

After that the evening is over, students made their way through the cold back home. Girls found a place in their closets for their dresses, and boys buried their jackets and ties until they are needed again next year. All that is left from extravegant dinners are leftovers to be reheated and eaten later. Though the event is over, memories and pictures still remain to help students who attended to remember the experiences of their formal evening.

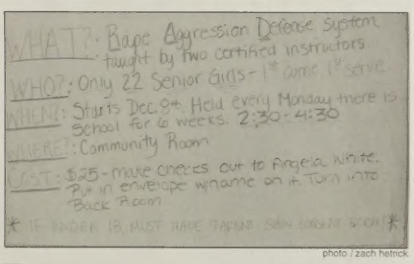

WHAT?: Rape Aggression Defense System
taught by two certified instructors
WHO?: Only 22 Senior Girls - 1st come 1st serve
WHEN: Starts Dec. 9th Held every Monday there is
school for 6 weeks. 2:30-4:30
WHERE: Community Room
COST: $25 - make checks out to Angela White.
Put in envelope w/name on it. Turn into
Back Room
* IF UNDER 18 MUST HAVE PARENT SIGN LOG IN & OUT *

photo / zach hetrick

Rape awareness

suhasini bhargava
associate entertainment editor

Providing students with the opportunity to learn defense mechanisms against violence and rape, the "Rape Aggression Defense System" (RAD) had scheduled to host its first sessions on Monday. However, the program was postponed until January 12, when the first meeting will be held. Originally developed to serve college students, this program is being offered to Homestead students this year for the first time in the school's history.

The Rape Aggression Defense System program has allowed 22 senior girls to become involved in six sessions which will be held throughout January. The program directors Angie White and Larry White aim to teach girls how to defend themselves on the street and escape from dangerous situations.

The idea of offering rape defense classes at the high school level was originally proposed by student government president Kait Stevens (12). To further the idea, Stevens presented the idea to the administration and staff members via email. Then, she contacted various locations around the city including Parkview Hospital and the YMCA. Eventually, Stevens learned of certified RAD instructors A. White and L. White and requested they teach a RAD session at Homestead. In the past, the Whites have taught sessions at IPFW, Huntington College, and Taylor University. Also, Stevens asked members of the "Students Working Against Violence" to become involved in this project.

"I guess I had been thinking about it [rape defense class] probably since the beginning of the year," Stevens said. "You hear stories about girls being taken advantage of and I thought it would be nice to have a defense session at school."

The primary purpose of teaching Rape Aggression Defense classes at the high school level is to prepare girls for the college atmosphere. Because the class emphasizes both safety regulations and physical self defense, the lessons can be applied to college life.

"This is offered to senior girls in hope of preparing girls for the real world," Stevens said. "It's something that is very real."

During the first two sessions, students will be taught about general safety, and they will participate in classroom lessons. In the last four sessions, the girls will practice self-defense and learn other defense tactics. On the last day of the course, the girls will take part in an actual simulation. On the day of the simulation, L. White will act as an aggressor and the girls will be attacked individually. Each student will also have the opportunity to defend herself against White and escape.

To become involved in the RAD sessions, senior girls had to turn in applications with a $22 fee. Selection for the RAD sessions was based on a first-come, first-served basis. The classes last for two hours, starting at 2:30 p.m. and concluding at 4:30 p.m.

As the college years steadily approach for many, classes such as Rape Agression Defense help students learn about survival and safety in a world outside the comfort of high school.

the Spartana
INTEGRATE

(ĭn'tĭ-grāt') v. To join with something else; unite

photo / kasey butcher

The new ice-skating rink was built in Headwaters Park to attract more people to downtown Fort Wayne.

Icing on the cake

Ice-skating rink adds to Fort Wayne outdoor activities for all age groups

kasey butcher
associate news editor

Fort Wayne has a slick new way to have fun in Headwaters Park, a new outdoor ice-skating rink that overlooks the courthouse and the downtown skyline. The rink opened Wednesday, November, 26 to a crowd of over 1,000 people.

"We were very pleased that so many people wanted to see the rink first hand and come down skating," executive director of the Headwaters Park Commission, Geoff Paddock said. "We think there's going to be pretty consistently large crowds each day."

Construction on the portable 60 foot by 120 foot oval rink started the first week of November, just after Election Day, and is part of an ongoing plan to attract more people downtown.

"We thought there was a strong interest for outdoor ice," Paddock said. "We wanted to create something that would be used and be inexpensive for families."

While construction of the rink cost around $200,000, donated from the county economic development income tax money, operation expenses will be raised from corporate donations and usage fees. These fees are four dollars for adults and two dollars for children eighteen and under. People can bring their own skates or pay a two dollar skate rental fee. Parking costs approximately two dollars as well. Skating hours are from noon to 8:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, 1:00 to 9:00 p.m. Saturdays, and from noon to 5:00 p.m. on Sundays. For more information call 422-7625.

The rink is expected to fare well, as it is the only rink, aside from McMillen, in the area since Glenbrook Mall closed its ice skating rink.

"That (Glenbrook) was indoors and at a big mall. We're just hopeful that people will use it and enjoy it and that it will bring more people downtown," Paddock said. "Those are our goals at the moment."

photo / zach hetrick

Gift-Giving trees supply impoverished families during the holiday season with presents during hard times. Various trees can be found at shopping malls and stores.

Giving Tree aids community

thao ngo
writer

Every year during the holiday season, there are many people exchanging gifts yet there are many people who go without a holiday presents.

Items such as shirts, socks, pants, board games, books, and many other articles adorn the wish lists of the less fortunate on Gift-Giving trees.

Tags are placed upon the "Giving Tree" with the item of someone's desire, usually along with their first name. The families or people that are placed upon the Giving Tree are mainly those who are not able to spend much money during the holidays.

"I think they [Giving Trees] do make a difference," Secretary of Saint Elizabeth Church Linda Will said.

Many places have the Giving Tree out with tags for the customers or public to take, purchase items, and return both tags and gifts back to the location. Later on the presents will be distributed to the families.

"The gifts usually go to families around here in this area," Will said.

The trees are usually put up early November and are taken down by early December. Places such as Stein Mart have their tree up until the 14th of December.

"The tree here had collected about $900," Will said.

The gifts later go to different charities, families, and organizations.

"It [the tree] was sponsored by the Sunshine Club," Will said. "It's a joint effort with Saint Joe's and Saint Elizabeth's."

At Stein Mart the gifts from their Giving Tree go Stop Child Abuse and Neglect (SCAN), which assists thousands of kids every year.

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Alcohol Kills

Drinking and driving kills another Heritage High School student athlete

manasee atre
copy editor

A recent car crash involving five Heritage High School students claimed the life of one of the teens and injured the four others. At 2:53 a.m. on November 30, a car driven by sixteen-year-old Benjamin Kline of Hoagland, Indiana skid off of the road and hit a tree on the 12000 block of Minnich Road. Passenger Ryan J. Hormann, 16, was killed instantly. Kline and passenger Mike Walda, 17, are in critical condition. Passengers Clinton J. Scott, 17, and Kris D. Mueller, 17, had minor injuries.

While the crash report listed unsafe speed as the cause of the accident, alcohol was also involved in the car crash. The crash report stated that Kline had a blood-alcohol content of .17, more than twice the legal limit of .08. Hormann also had a high blood-alcohol content. Walda had a blood-alcohol content of .06, and Scott had a blood-alcohol content of .1. Mueller's blood-alcohol content was not listed on the police report.

"When you put alcohol in the hands of minors and they get behind the wheel and drive, tragedy happens," Sheriff's Department spokesman Victor Hopkins said in The Journal Gazette.

It is not known how the teenagers received the alcohol or where they were going to at the time of the accident.

In the accident, the car that Kline was driving, a 1995 Ford Taurus that belonged to Scott's parents, slid on a patch of snow and ice and went off of the road. The right side of the car hit the tree, and the car was cut in half by the impact.

News of the accident devastated the Heritage community. Grief counselors and clergymen came to the school so that the students and faculty could grief for the boys involved in the crash.

"It's a tight-knit community," Hormann's father Jim Hormann said. "People around here treat each other like they want to be treated."

Students at school were also shocked and saddened by the accident.

"I was really sad when I heard about the accident," Priya Iyer (12) said. "I really hope that the kids who survived end up okay. The saddest part of the whole accident was that alcohol was involved and that the whole thing could have been prevented."

This tragedy marks the third time in little more than four years when a student-athlete at Heritage has been killed in a car accident while under the influence of alcohol. In June 1999, Dane Hullinger, 16, fell asleep while driving and crashed into a utility pole. Another year, Clayton Dekoninck, 17, had a blood-alcohol content of .1 when he crashed his car. Then, in February 2001, Joshua Minnich, 18, drove his car through a ditch and hit a telephone pole. He was thrown from the car and crushed to death.

Key facts for 2002

** Drinking and driving contributed to 95 fatal crashes, 384 serious injury crashes and 918 minor injury crashes.*

** 27% of all road deaths were in drinking-related crashes.*

** Over 80 per cent of drivers with excess blood alcohol levels involved in fatal crashes were male.*

** Drunk drivers were responsible for killing 32 of their own passengers, 14 other drivers, passengers, cyclists and pedestrians, and 63 of these drunk drivers were themselves killed.*

** The combination of alcohol and speed during the period 2000-2002 contributed to 13.7% of fatal crashes.*

** Over 2 million people were breath tested by Police.*

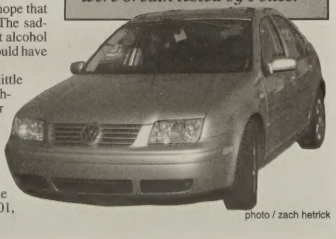


photo / zach hetrick

(pûr'vyoo') n. Range of vision, comprehension, or experience; outlook

the Spartana PURVIEW

5a

December 19, 2003

Hard pill to swallow

Indiana Congressman Mike Pence vehemently rebukes the new prescription drug plan, arguing that it will place a hefty financial burden on the next generation.

kasey butcher
associate news editor

The topic of heated Congressional controversy, the new Medicare Bill, was signed into law by President George W. Bush on Monday, December 8. The bill, which will cost the nation about 400 billion dollars, is the first major reform of Medicare since its establishment in 1965.

Starting in 2006, Medicare users will pay a $35 monthly premium on top of a $250 annual deductible. Medicare will cover 75 percent of prescription drug costs up to $2,250 per person. After that, drug costs must be paid by the individual until the price reaches $3600. After that, the "catastrophic provision" will pay 95 percent of all remaining costs. The premium, however, may not be the same for all people, (it will vary depending on where they live), and not all drugs are guaranteed for coverage.

This prescription drug plan is by far the most controversial aspect of the bill, as already high drug costs and premiums are expected to rise. However, the bill has several regulatory provisions that advocates for the bill hope will introduce cheap generic drugs into the market. The bill, though, does not allow Medicare to reduce drug prices, and it upholds a ban on importing cheaper drugs from foreign countries. According to the Consumers Union, a person who spends $2,318 a year on medications before the passage of the bill, will likely pay $2,911 before 2007.

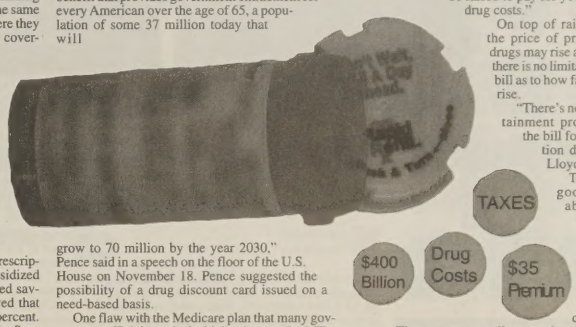
Medicare users will receive some prescription benefits through a $30 Medicare-subsidized discount card starting in 2004. The projected savings are around 25 percent, but it is believed that the savings will actually fall to around ten percent.

When the bill went to the vote in the Senate on November 25, the 54 to 44 outcome in favor of the bill upset traditional political party trends. Eleven Democrats who were expected to vote in favor of the bill voted against it, along with nine Republicans.

The vote in the house took slightly longer and turned out to be a split of 220 to 215 in favor of the bill. Originally, the vote opposed the bill with a turn out of 218 to 216, but after three hours of deliberation, the votes flipped, allegedly after President Bush made some late night phone calls to House members regarding the bill.

Congressman Mike Pence (6th District Indiana) voted against the bill for various reasons including taxes raises, high government costs, and the exclusion of a cost containment provision. Also, the drug plan covers all people, not just those who need aid, furthering the government spending.

"Sadly, the prescription drug plan currently being advanced in the House and Senate lacks such focus and actually would create a universal drug benefit that provides government entitlement for every American over the age of 65, a population of some 37 million today that will grow to 70 million by the year 2030," Pence said in a speech on the floor of the U.S. House on November 18. Pence suggested the possibility of a drug discount card issued on a need-based basis.



One flaw with the Medicare plan that many government officials see is the high price attached. The plan will cost the United States government and citizens an estimated $400 billion on top of debts already amassed during the war in Iraq.

"[The plan's] greatest flaw is that it costs the government too much money and your taxes will go up to cover that money," Matt Lloyd, Press Secretary to Pence, told *The Spartana*.

It is unclear who exactly the bill will benefit and whether or not it will harm people not on Medicare or those who are insured by private firms. While only 24 percent of seniors do not have prescription drug coverage, the out of pocket cost for many people can add up to over $4,000 per year digging poor seniors even further into debt.

"[The bill] does benefit seniors and especially those near the poverty level," Lloyd said.

Helping seniors, however, may cost younger citizens quite a bit of money. Taxes may rise to cover the cost of Medicare.

"The bill has a negative effect on students once they reach adulthood," Lloyd said. "Taxes will be raised to pay for your parents' drug costs."

On top of raised taxes, the price of prescription drugs may rise as well and there is no limitation in the bill as to how far they can rise.

"There's no cost containment provision in the bill for prescription drug cost," Lloyd said.

The one good thing about the bill in Pence's eyes is the Health Savings Accounts.

These accounts allow workers under 64 years of age to put money from high insurance deductible into special savings accounts to go toward health care. All this money will remain tax free.

"If [the plan] does have an asset, it would be the Health Savings Accounts," Lloyd said. "The congressman believes that they will come close to outweighing the cost of the bill, which is why he voted against it."

Controversy over the bill may not have ended with its signing into law. Only time will tell, however, whether the new Medicare plan will in fact help or hurt the nation.

Medicare Projections

***$400 Billion**- Cost of Medicare reforms*

***$2,250** amount of drug costs per person that the bill will cover*

***$35** monthly premium*

***25%** projected prescription savings*

***10%** expected actual prescription savings*

***10 votes** margin by which the bill passed in the Senate*

***5 votes** margin by which the bill passed in the House*

U.S. soldiers spend holidays in Iraq, apart from their families

sarah kennedy
writer

Military postal operations ship 250,000 pounds of mail to Iraq each day. As the holiday season swings into full stride, the mail to Iraq is expected to increase 325,000 pounds daily. This large number will cause major delays and backups for the holiday packages going to U.S. troops.

Recently the U.S. postal service has stopped the shipping of packages addressed to "any serviceman," and requires a name and specific mailing address to be on the packages to Iraq. There are, however, other ways for citizens to show support for the troops overseas. Several gift operations have developed in which people can send donations and care packages to troops, and the operations make the process much easier to help.

"Operation Hero Miles" enables travelers to donate their frequent flier miles to the U.S. Military. These miles help troops on leave from Iraq reach destinations to visit family and friends. Service members on two-week "rest and recuperation" are flown free to either Rhein-Main Air Base (Germany) or Baltimore-Washington International Airports by the defense department. They must then pay for flights out of and back to these ports (in order to go elsewhere). With "Operation Hero Miles," troops will receive free miles that they can use to fly from these ports to visit family and friends during the holidays.

"Operation Gratitude" provides a way for people to purchase items for the troops, donate money to the military for postage, or write letters of support and encouragement for service members. Citizens can choose an item from a wish list that is posted on-line at www.opgratitude.com. The item will then be mailed out with other items to the troops. There is also the option of donating money to send the packages. 100% of the donations go toward helping with the mailing, and the average cost for the mailing of one package is $25. Mailing information is posted on-line with instructions for how to donate. Another option in "Operation Gratitude" is to write a letter of support to be included in the gifts to soldiers. The goal for this year is to have several letters with each package that is sent, in order to make each service member's Christmas enjoyable.

photo / zach hetrick

"I'm kind of scared of having my cousin going overseas...we had Christmas early this year because she's leaving December 17th," Taryn Gard (10) said.

Many U.S. citizens have family and friends that are currently deployed overseas. The postal service suggests that all gifts for family members in the military should be sent as soon as possible, due to the large amount of packages that will be flooding the postal service this holiday season. The sooner the mail is sent out, the better chance it will have for getting to the recipients on time.

"It's going to be weird with my cousin gone for the holidays, I wouldn't want to be alone in a different country without family," Gard said.

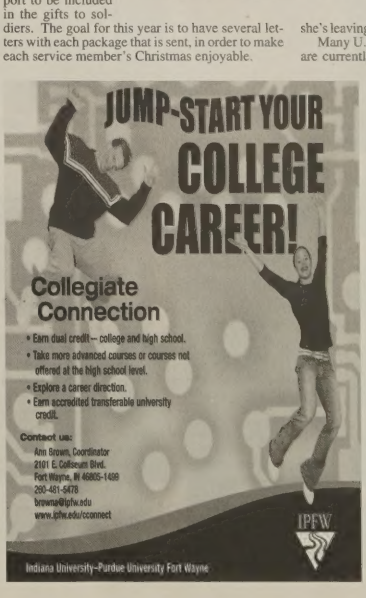
"Operation USO Care Package" is another way for people to contribute to making the troops' holidays more enjoyable. Anyone can stop by a Bass Pro Shop location and buy donation cards. The cards are available in $1, $3, and $5 amounts. These cards will be donated to the army, and can include a personal greeting from the purchaser. The donations can also be made by calling 1-800-basspro or logging onto www.basspro.com. The donations will be used for the purchase of items the military has requested. These items include phone cards, disposable cameras, toiletries and sunscreen.

Soldiers do not have to feel so far from home this holiday season. All of these programs are ways for citizens of the United States to help support the troops that are fighting overseas, and contribute to making their holidays apart from their friends and families, happy and enjoyable as possible..

Quote of the Issue

"Ladies and gentlemen, we got him."

--Ambassador L. Paul Bremer on the Capture of Iraqi Dictator Saddam Hussein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Reward

On November 6, 2003 at approximately 9:30 pm a metallic navy blue GMC drove into a fence on West Hamilton Rd.

Two males got out of the car and checked the damage which would have occurred on the passenger side of the vehicle near the front bumper and side panel.

A reward will be given to any person who offers information that positively identifies the person involved

Please call: 672-8387 to volunteer information

Reward

the Spartana
EXALT

(eg-zolt') v. to glorify, praise, or honor

"Well I got an email after show choir in Mrs. Byrne's office. I was more relieved than anything [about being accepted to Harvard], because I had two friends with me and I didn't want them to see me not get in"

-Ray Keller (12)

Ray Keller (12), Harvard University

Harvard University

Private
Four-year
Liberal Arts College
Urban setting
Small city (50,000-249,999)
% applicants admitted: 11%

Degrees Available:
* Associate
* Bachelor's
* Master's
* Doctoral
* First Professional

source/ collegeboard.com

Students awarded admission, scholarships to prestigious schools

Manasee Atre (12) and Ray Keller (12) named Wells Scholar and admitted to Harvard, respectively

zafar sayed
news editor

The high school senior year is one full of changes; a majority of students begin searching for and applying to a vast variety of colleges and universities in hope of attending the following fall. Often times, a diverse student body elicits distinct areas of academic pursuit, ranging from the arts to purely science based fields. As application deadlines rapidly approach, students take care to send in their materials early as they also look for financial aid, either through scholarships, grants, or loans.

With the widespread use of computers, applying has become faster, and in many cases more efficient. Online forms can simply be filled out through one's personal computer.

After the sometimes long and arduous process of applying, acceptance or rejection letters are usually sent home from the college, or via email. This can often be an exciting time for most prospective college students.

"Well I got an email after show choir in Mrs. [Rosalie] Byrne's office," Ray Keller (12) said. "I was more relieved than anything [about being accepted to Harvard], because I had two friends with me and I didn't want them to see me not get in."

Keller applied Early Action to Harvard University, and hopes to study Physics or Biology.

Colleges normally practice one of two ways to process all the applicants they receive. Either through rolling admissions, whereby the school makes a decisions concerning

Once a particular school has admitted a student, they may qualify for acceptance into the more selective honors college, or be placed in scholarship competitions.

Choosing the right schools to apply to can often be a long process. Some students decide to begin this process during their junior year. Often times, campus visits which include tours of classroom, buildings, and overnight stays in residential areas, can showcase a wide variety of strengths for a particular institution.

Jason Walley (12) was recently accepted into the University of Cincinnati, and plans to major in architecture next year. This year, Walley was the Editor-in-Chief of the Mirador publication, and was a swim team member.

"I think Cincinnati is a wonderful school for my interests - those mainly being in art," Walley (12) said.

Characteristics that help determine the right school to attend may be the size of the student body, whether or not the college is public of private, and other factors such as prestige. The course selection offered, as well as the strength of the faculty, can also play a large role in determining which university or college is right for the student.

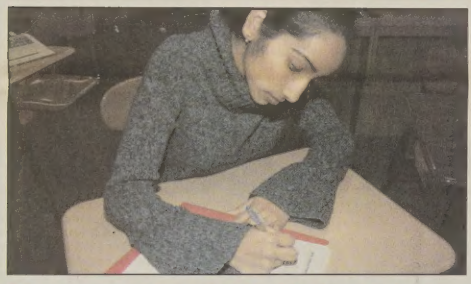
"I'm looking for a college with a good academic program, one that has a lot to offer toward my interests," Brett Gage (12) said. "I've looked at the University of Arizona for its good business school, and I am interested in the honors program they have. After visiting U of A, I feel comfortable on campus, which is also an important thing when looking at colleges."

Once at a post-secondary school, many students have a variety of extracurricular activities to choose from. Whether it be their expression through music, theater, and art, college campuses provide many student and faculty led organizations that encompass all areas of interests.

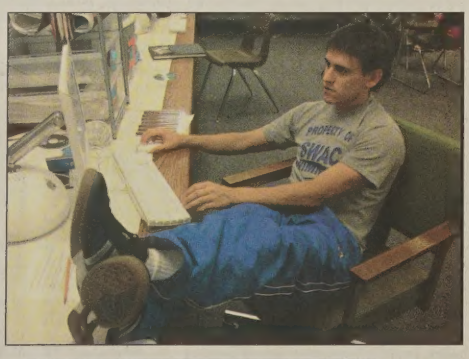
Manasee Atre (12), recently received the Wells Scholarship to Indiana University. She has participated in many extracurricular activities, including Orchestra, Key Club, Newspaper, and volunteering at Lutheran Hospital. After being nominated for the Wells Scholarship as one of two nominees from Homestead, Atre was called for a finalist interview on December 6th and 7th. After a week of deliberation, the scholarship committee director called Atre to notify her of the scholarship offer.

"I was really excited when Dr. Tom Londergon [the Director of the Wells Program] called me to tell me that I got the Wells," Atre said. "The Wells is such an amazing scholarship, with so many opportunities. I'm so glad that I'm going to be a part of it."

With the end of the first semester in sight, much of the college application process is underway, allowing students to broaden their perspectives and seek out their future career goals. As seniors prepare for graduation day, many will be thinking ahead to upcoming college plans, and starting a new academic life once again.

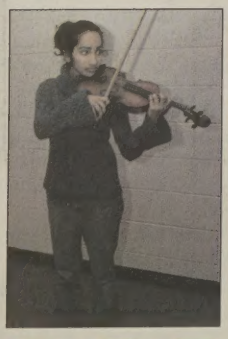


Manasee Atre (12), Wells Scholar



Wells Scholarship

* Found at Indiana University
* Includes full tuition, fees, and a living stipend for four years on campus
* Option of traveling abroad or pursuing summer programs
* Previous Wells Scholars have been awarded Rhodes, Truman, and Marshall scholarships
* Based solely on merit



University of Cincinnati

* Public
* Four-year University
* Urban setting
* Large city (250,000-499,999)
* Commuter campus
* Coed
* % applicants admitted: 88%
*Regionally accredited

source/ collegeboard.com

"I think Cincinnati is a wonderful school for my interests - those mainly being in art"

-Jason Walley (12)

Jason Walley (12), University of Cincinnati

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T-Shirts will be on sale every Friday and also at Boy's Basketball games.

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A MUST have for basketball games!

Spartans

the Spartana
SPORTS & VIEWS
B
December 19, 2003 Contact the Sports and Views editor at TheSpartana@hotmail.com

photo / zach hetrick

Spartan Taylor Hoagland (12) makes an aggresive move to the basket against a Whitko defender during the November 29 game.

Strong start

tyler keena
writer

After losing five senior starters and other varsity players after the 2002-2003 season, the boys' basketball team is out to prove to people that they are a very underrated squad with a lot of talent.

Because of last year's senior-dominated team, this year there were very few players with varsity experience.

"A lot of people thought we weren't going to be very good this year," said Ryan Koepke (12). "That basically made us want to come out and prove people wrong."

So far this season, they have done just that by winning their first three games and starting off their season undefeated.

Their first game of the year was a victory against Whitko, avenging a loss from a year ago.

The team's second victory came in overtime against Wayne High School by a score of 62-59. Taylor Hougland (12) knocked down three 3-point baskets on his way to 12 points to boost the Spartans' effort. Kevin Bush (12) added 9 points of his own.

The team also managed to pull out another clutch victory with a second overtime win, this time against South Side High School. The Spartans were led by Grant Leiendecker (10), who scored 29 points. Andy Baker (12) also knocked down two game-winning free throws at the end of the overtime period to give Homestead a two-point win over the archers, 69-67.

"We thought we were going to be a good team this year [based on how we've played] in practice," said Koepke. "It was just a matter of executing in the games and playing fundamentally."

The Spartans knew heading into the season that with their lack of experience, people were going to have to step up to the challenge this year and help them.

"Grant Leiendecker and Jeff Grabowski hvae stepped up and played really well this year," said Koepke.

Jeff Grabowski (11) scored 2 points against Wayne and added 10 points in the Spartans win over the Archers .

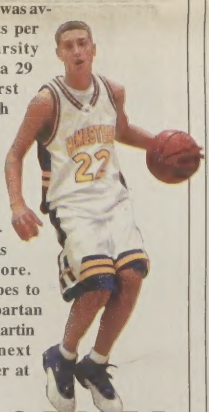
The boys hope that they can keep winning games and keep showing everyone that they are a talented team that can compete with anyone.

On Friday, December 19, the Spartans look to improve their perfect record of 3-0 on the road against the Carroll Chargers.

The Spartan's game against Manchester on December 13 was cancelled because Manchester player Kyle Music died of the extremely contagious meningitis.

PEAK PERFORMER

As of press time, Grant Leiendecker (10) was averaging 19 points per game at the varsity level, including a 29 point outburst against the South Side Archers. After seeing limited playing time as a freshman, Leiendecker is the starting varsity point guard as a sophomore. Leiendecker hopes to follow fomer Spartan standout Erich Martin as the team's next three year starter at point guard.



Left: Jono Cobb (10) looks for a teammate in the post. Cobb made his first varsity start in the Homestead victory against Whitko. Above: The Spartans' leading scoring Grant Leiendecker dribbles around full court pressure from a Whitko defender. As of press time, the Spartans boasted an undefeated record of 3-0, beating Whitco, Wayne, and South Side.

Former Spartan standout finishes swimming career at University of Tennessee

Long time competitor at Homestead, Justin Hoggatt continued athletic succes while swimming in college

tyler keena
writer

As high school swimming season kicks into high gear, it's only fitting to feature one of Homestead's top swimmer's ever as this issue's student-athlete.

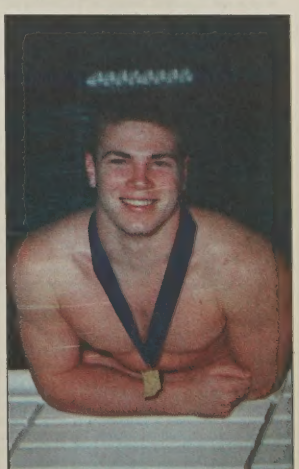
Justin Hoggatt attended Homestead from 1994 until 1998. During this period, Hoggatt was on the swim team and became one of the best athlete's in the history of the school. All four of Hoggatt's high school swimming seasons resulted in sectional championships and he led the team to Northeast Hoosier Conference championships his sophomore, junior, and senior years on the team. During this four year period, Homestead also had two top-five finishes at the state competition. Competing individually, Hoggatt finished first in the state in the 50 meter freestyle his sophomore, junior, and senior seasons, and the 100 meter butterfly his senior year. He was the team captain in his final two seasons at Homestead and was given First Team All-Conference honors in the NHC. But Hoggatt's success didn't stop at the high school level as he signed on with the University of Tennessee to compete after high school.

In his freshman year (1998-1999) at the University of Tennessee, Hoggatt swam well but did not enjoy the personal achievements that he had received throughout the previous four seasons in high school. He finished in tenth place or higher in every event during the 1998-1999 season and closed out the year with a second place finish in the 200 meter freestyle relay.

This success continued to his sophomore year, where he swam personal bests in many events, including the 100 meter butterfly and 100 meter freestyle. He received All-America honors at the NCAA meet by helping the 200 meter medley relay to a third place finish. Hoggatt also competed at the U.S. Olympic Time Trials and finished in 35th place.

In his junior year, Hoggatt finished second place at the SEC Championship in the 100 butterfly with a time of 47.27 seconds and placed first in the 200 meter medley relay in American Record Time of 1:24.75. Hoggatt also swam personal bests in the 100 meter butterfly and 100 meter free style with times of 47.01 seconds and 44.76 seconds respectively. He also set school records in the 200 and 400 meter medley relays at the NCAA Championships.

In his senior year, Hoggatt did not post the fantastic times that he posted his junior year but he still swam extremely well in the 200 medley relay and 100 butterfly and helped his team to a first place finish the SEC East, fifth place in the SEC Championships, and 12th place at the NCAA Championships.



Justin Hoggatt's legacy as a state champion swimmer remains at Homestead in this picture on the athletic wall. Hoggatt was the state champion in the 50 meter freestyle his sophomore, junior, and senior years at Homestead. He also placed first at the state competition in the 100 meter butterfly his senior year.

the Spartana
DISPORT
(dĭ - spôrt′) v. to occupy oneself with diversion or amusement

Spartan Briefs

Colts Football

The Colts are in first place in the AFC south with 2 weeks to go in the NFL season. The Colts defeated division foe Tennessee 2 Sundays ago and clobbered the Atlanta Falcons last Sunday. The Colts finish up the season playing at home against the Denver Broncos, and then traveling to Houston to face the Texans. The Colts have wrapped up a playoff spot at the very least and can clinch the division with a win on Sunday or a Tennessee loss this Sunday. If Indianapolis loses and Tennessee wins, the Colts will either have to win in the final Sunday or have the Titans lose in their final game.

Purdue Football

The Purdue Boilermakers have another bowl bid and will face 10th ranked Georgia in the Capital One Bowl in Orlando, Florida. The Boilermakers ended their season 9-3 while the Georgia Bulldogs ended theirs at 10-3. Georgia was the runner-up in the SEC championship. While the Boilers finished tied for second in the Big Ten conference.

Komets Hockey

The Fort Wayne Komets have broken into second place in the Western conference of the UHL. The Komets defeated in a shootout by the Flint Generals last Wednesday, 3-2. The Komets bounced back Friday and came from behind to beat the Rockford Icehogs 3-2. The Komets traveled to Columbus on Saturday to finish out the week where they edged the Stars 2-1. The Komets will travel to Kalamazoo on Friday, December the 19th, to face the K-Wings. The Komets will then face the Rockford Icehogs in Rockford on Saturday the 20th. Finally the Komets will return home to face their rivals, the Quad City Mallards on Sunday the 21st. Game time for that game is 5:00 pm. Some upcoming home games in December are the 26th, 28th, and the 31st.

Pacers Basketball

The Indiana Pacers currently have the third best record in the National Basketball Association, short of the L.A. Lakers an Sacramento. The Pacers, 19-6 are atop the Eastern Conference standings leading New Orleans by 2 games. The Pacers play at Minnesota on Saturday, December 20th. They then play at Houston on Tuesday, December 23rd. Finally they play at Milwaukee on Friday, December 26th.

Hoosiers Basketball

The Indiana Hoosiers are 4-3 to yet this year and in last place in the Big-Ten. The Hoosiers open their Big Ten Season on January 6th against the Wisconsin Badgers in Wisconsin. The Lady Hoosiers are 5-3 this year. They open their Big Ten Season against Michigan State on January 2nd, in East Lansing.

Girl's Basketball

After 2 hard losses in their home opener versus Snider followed by Elmhurst, the Lady Spartans have rebounded back to 3 strong wins. The wins came against Dwenger, New Haven, and Northside. All the ladies are hoping for a successful season and a bid to the playoffs.

Cougars Football

The St. Francis Cougars (12-1) ended their most successful season ever. They lost to Carroll and Montana College. The Cougars went 12-1 this season, their best yet. The Cougars are only expected to get better next year. The Cougars had never made it to the NAIA semifinals before.

UHL All-Star Game

The Fort Wayne Komets will be hosting this years United Hockey League All-Star game in Fort Wayne at the Memorial Coliseum. The game will be played on Sunday, January 18th, at 7:35. After a 2 year absence the All-Star game was put back on the schedule. Promoters are saying that there will be surprises for players and fans alike. Voting for the starting lineups will be held online at theUHL.com.

Mastadon Basketball

The IPFW Mastodons are in the midst of their 3rd division one season. The 'Dons are 2-6 this season with their wins coming against Bowling Green and Morehead State.. The 'Dons had played such teams as Iowa State, Kent State, and Toledo. The 'Dons next home games are on January 3rd and17th. Games are held at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum.

Boy's Basketball

The boy's basketball season is underway and they have started off with 3 wins. The game scheduled for December 9 has been rescheduled due to the passing of a JV Manchester player. Led by two sophomore starters Jono Cobb and Grant Leindecker, the team has high hopes for the season.

Gymnastics

The girl's gymnastics season will commence on January 8 and continue on through February 28. The gymnastics team has won the most state gymnastics championships of any team and, with only one senior playing for the team, is looking to repeat the winning tradition in the upcoming season. The first gymnastic meet will be held on January 7 at Huntington North High School.

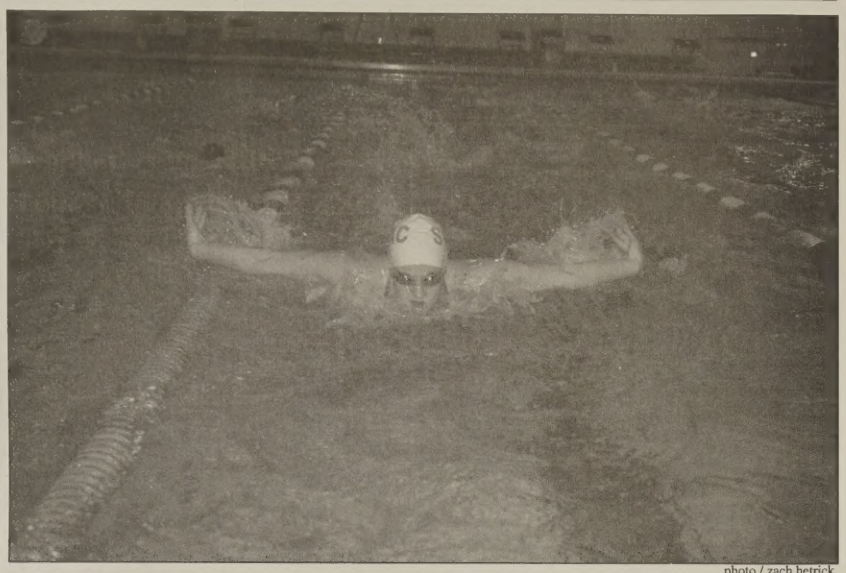


photo / zach hetrick

One stroke at a time

After losing to Snider three years in a row, the girls' swim team still looks ahead to future goals and a state championship

matt anderson
designer

Suffering a disappointing, yet exceptionally close loss to Snider, the girls swim team looks to the Sectional for their next chance to dethrone the reigning Panthers for the first time in three years.

On December 11, the Panthers and Spartans met head on in what many thought of as the meet to decide the best in the area. Although one team came out ahead, the line between the best and second best wasn't necessarily as clear as in past years.

"We only lost to Snider by a twelve point difference," Rachael Helman (12) said. "In swimming that's only about a two race difference. We have several improvements we can make before sectionals that can make up that small difference. They are a tough team by far, but we can make the needed adjustments."

photo / zach hetrick

Practicing backstroke, Macy Zander works her way down the pool. The girls team is currently ranked sixth in the state.

Even though the girls lost to Snider, they feel that none of the team's morale or confidence has been lost; actually, some feel it has actually helped motivate them.

"The loss at the Snider meet has had no negative effect for our team's morale or work ethic," Maddison Hamil (12) said. "On the contrary, we are now inspired even more than before to train as hard as we can so that in the end, when it truly matters, we will be victorious against Snider at sectionals. We haven't won the sectional for three years now, but this is the year that we take back the sectional title."

After the Snider meet the girls moved on to an invitational against Yorktown, Concordia, and Delta. The team ended up finishing second to Yorktown, but still felt the weekend was a success.

"The weekend went really well," Helman said. "Everybody had a great time, and everybody swam well. Lots of record were broken, and many people swam state qualifying times. We ended up losing to Yorktown, but we weren't that upset because they were a really strong team."

Both Snider and Yorktown are ranked ahead of the Spartans in the state poll. As of now the girls team stands at a very respectable 6th in state. They hope to rise even higher than that in the rankings through practice and perseverance.

"We are swimming really well this early in the season," Helman said. "Our strengths our are endurance. We train really hard, and we feel like we can continue to improve. We are just going to keep practicing hard."

The girls are now looking into the future to the Sectional and State meets. They have high hopes for their team, and are now looking to blow past the competition in the water.

"We are putting out times right now this year that are faster than the times we had at state last year," Hamil said. "Needless to say, we think we can do really well at the state level. Our relay time for the 200 free relay is second in the state right now to Carmel. Emily Ring, Jessica Skiba, Kelly Johnson and I swam it at the invitational in a 1:39.99, breaking the old school record. We hope to qualify many girls this year in individual events than we did last year."

Last year the girls qualified several girls from the team to compete at state. From last year's team they only lost one girl, and in turn gained two this year.

"The only person of significance we lost was Erin Johnson-a backstroker," Hamil said. "Other than that we have gained Jessica Skiba and Macy Zander, both freshmen. We are as strong as we have ever been, and it looks like Homestead will be strong for many years to come."

Gymnastic competitors prepare to spring into action

jessica bird
writer

Every year, athletic teams have to deal with loosing seniors to graduation. However, after losing four seniors, and gaining many freshman, the gymnastics team is ready to flip over the competition.

Season practices started in the beginning of November for their first meet.

"I think we're working really hard at practice as a team, and will be ready for our first match," Kristie Slane (12) said.

A gymnastic meet consists of each individual competing in any of the following: the vault, the uneven bars, the balance beam, and a floor exercise. The team score is a combined total of individual points scored.

"At each meet we watch each other compete and cheer on the team," Elizabeth Neely (10) said.

This year, the team is expecting tough competition.

"Carroll is going to be the closest meet we have all season," Neely said, "because they barely beat us last year."

"Carroll is going to be the closet meet we have all season because they barely beat us last year."

-Elizabeth Neely (10)

Carroll nearly beat Homestead by 4.275 points.

As the season takes off, each girl has goals set for themselves, as well as team goals set for their squad.

"Our season goal is probably to do our best against Carroll because they're our toughest competitor," Slane said, "[Also] to do the best we can."

The gymnastic team's first meet is January 7 at Huntington North.

photo / jack rozman

Skating around a Carroll defender, Ryan Marshall (12) tries to reach the net during the December 3 game. The team lost the game 6-5 but came back on December 10 when they defeated the Snider Panthers 4-1 making the team second in the Fort Wayne High School League. The boys played New Haven on Wednesday December 17.

(dis' -pā'shən)
n. An amusement; diversion

the Spartana
DISSIPATION

3b
December 19, 2003

Back on track for a winning season

After a slow start and two disappointing losses, the girls' basketball team has rallied back with three wins

matt anderson
writer

After starting the season off roughly, the girls basketball team bounced back to take five straight games, and now look to the remainder of their season to keep themselves on track for a conference and sectional win.

photo / zach hetrick

Going into the season, the Lady Spartans had high hopes and confidence, but after their first three games concluded, they began to doubt themselves.

"We lost our first three games against Huntington North, Snider and Elmhurst," Jenna Pierce (11) said. "We should have beat some of those teams, or at least competed with them. We just didn't play well."

The team connects the rough start with their not completely adjust to playing with each other yet. They felt not everyone was ready for varsity level play.

"Our weakness is probably the fact that we do have younger, less experienced kids," Jenn Kopeke (12) said. "Their stepping up to play their role in the varsity games is crucial. They are a key part to our success, and we need them to be able to convert every game. I don't think they completely understood this going into our first match- ups."

After their disappointing start, the team began to regain momentum and confidence. They won their first game against North Side and then went on to beat the next three opponents they played. Players attribute part of their new success to the return of one of their seniors, Liz Witte.

"Liz hurt her ACL in a summer league," Hannah Weide (11) said. "Since she has come back we have gone undefeated. She is a good shooting guard, and has helped us play more as a team."

Witte's leadership and ability to score have become great assests to push the team to victory now that she is back on the floor.

"Liz coming back has helped a lot," Kristin Bruce (11) said. "Her presence on the court took a lot of pressure off of the other players. She shows great leadership on the court. Plus, she is a great scorer."

Now that the team feels it is playing well again, they are looking toward a conference and Sectional win.

"A conference win would be totally obtainable," Kopeke said. "Then we want to go as far as we can in the sectional, and maybe win state. I think that is every team's goal."

Another strength the team feels will help them to be successful is their ability to be varied.

"We are actually really well rounded," Kopeke said. "We have posts that know when to bang the boards and guards that can knock down threes. We really can play either style of game. We are equipped to dribble the ball under pressure, but we can also put the pressure on the ot er team."

photo / zack hetrick

Left: Ashley Buck (12) overcomes a foul to score against Northside. Right: Hannah Weide (11) scans the floor for an open teammate later in the game.

Wrestlers off to a shaky start, show promise

ryan rahrig
writer

The new season started off with a new coach for the wrestling team, Randy Pursely. Pursley, although new to the Homestead wrestling scene, is no novice in the field of wrestling. In his home town of Bluffton, Indiana, Pursley started wrestling when he was in first grade. In high school, he placed in state three out of four years, and he won the state competition for his weight class in 1999. At Purdue, he wrestled varsity and placed competitively.

"Purdue was a good experience," Pursley said. "I learned a lot about technique and fundamentals."

Stepping into the new coaching experience was not very difficult for Pursley, especially because he was aided by the wrestlers themselves.

"These are really good kids," Pursley said. "Some of the upper classmen made it easier, and the program has a solid foundation."

Under the new coach, the team has a new outlook on the season.

"[Coach Pursley] brings a new attitude to the mats, and he has the ability to improve our young team," Richard Roelke (12) said. "Practice is a lot more fun. It doesn't seem like work, but we still improve every day."

Pursley's attitude toward the season is one of hard work and good attitude before personal victory.

"We have guys that work hard," Pursley said. "I just want everyone to wrestle their best every time out. Of course, we want to win, but I want them to wresile to their potential. That's all I can ask. If we compete hard, the rest will take care of itself."

The Spartans competed hard and received their first victory of the season over Dekalb. The team won the match 47-30.

"Quite a few guys we thought would win did, and some young guys pulled through too," Justin Allen (11) said.

Nine Spartan wrestlers won their matches to give Homestead the win. Although the team is once again young and inexperienced, the team has high hopes that the younger wrestlers will gain experience through the JV tournament and through the season in order to make a good showing at conference.

"There are some areas we need to improve on because of inexperience," Clinton Smith (11) said. "Pursley is more properly preparing us than in previous years."

The team feels that they can improve on their record of 5-7 last year by relying on their strong upper weight classes and strong wrestlers such as Justin Allen (who reached semi-state last year), Matt Witham (11), Brian Wight (11), Richard Roelke, and Clinton Smith distributed throughout the weight classes.

"We have some strong wrestlers through the whole lineup this year," Roelke said. "We wrestle against people in practice, we know are better so that we improve."

The latest meet for the wrestlers gave them a chance to show their hard work. On December 16 they faced Wayne, and tied a school record for scoring with a 78-6 victory. All but one of the Spartan wrestlers won their matches, winning 14 of the weigt classes.

Although the team lost seniors J.R. Horst and Doug Conrad, the mood of the year is to improve on last year and develop better skills as individuals.

"Anyone can be successful," Pursley said. "You don't have to be the best. You just have to work hard."

photo / zach hetrick

The official gets down to judge Clinton Smith's (11) pin of Norwell's James Lewis (10). Despite Smith's win, Homestead lost the meet, bringing their record to 1-2.

Bowling team knocks over competition

evan childers
writer

Under the leadership of coaches Mark and Lori Burbrink, Homestead's bowling team has come out strong.

Homestead's girls team is off to a good start after a win over Woodlan in their first game of the year. Games are played every Thursday at 4:00 p.m. This year's girls squad has seven members, and this year's boys squad has thirteen members. Only five members of each team play on varsity and compete in the matches.

Last year, the girls placed second at sectionals and advanced to regionals. Individually, though, team member Sara Rademaker, who graduated in 2003, advanced all the way to semi-state. The boys team did not make it farther than sectionals, although team member Jon Wagner (2003 graduate) advanced in individual competition.

Competitions are set up between teams. Five bowlers from each team compete at a time. Individual scores are compiled in head to head matches. The winners of these individual matches score one point, and whatever team compiles the highest score wins five points. The teams bowl two games apiece. Homestead's home lanes are located at ProBowl West.

"I want to win state, and hopefully go undefeated this year. We were close two years ago... We have also won district two years in a row."

-Amanda Pasquali

Team members were enthusiastic about the team's chances earlier this year and were looking to compile a successful season.

The girls team is led through the experience of its senior team members. Stephenie Savage (12) and Amanda Pasquali (11) are two of the most talented bowlers on the girls squad. Amanda has a game average of 175, and a personal best of 248.

"I want to win state and hopefully go undefeated this year," Pasquali said. "We were close two years ago. We have also won district the past two years, though."

Many students do not know about bowling events because bowling is a club sport. This means that the team cannot announce tryout dates over the PA or the video announcements. Tryouts last two days.

"If you are interested in becoming a member of the team, you need to work on your game a lot during the year," Pasquali said. "It is not required to own your own shoes or bowling ball, but it is a good idea for serious players. If you are interested in bowling, just ask one of the bowling team members about tryouts next year."

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the Spartana
VERBOSE

(vər-bos) adj. Using or contianing an excessive number of words; wordy

logan braman
designer

Although many of us try to forget the sniper attacks of last September and October, reality is that they did take place. Looking back at the events, a new perspective is gained while watching the ongoing trials. This is the story of the shots heard around the world just one short year ago.

The first victim of the sniper attack was shot on September 14, 2002 and the last of the attacks took place on October 22. With fourteen victims on their list, seventeen year old Lee Malvo and forty one year old John Allen Muhammad were finally taken into custody on October 24, 2002.

During the month that the attacks were going on last year, they were felt by the entire nation. The snipers became more brazen and dangerous in the shootings, choosing victims at random and carrying out the attacks virtually without planning. Everyone in and around the Washington D.C. area lived their lives in constant fear for an entire month. In the end, the snipers became extremely blatant and actually gave their pursuers clues on how to find them. Following their arrest, Muhammad and Malvo were set to be put on trial.

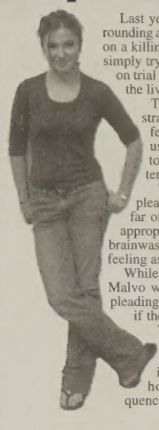
Both Muhammad and Malvo are being charged with two counts of capitol murder. In Virginia (where the trials are being held) a person is eligible for the death penalty if he kills more than one person in a three year period. Also under Virginia's post-9/11 antiterrorism laws, the death penalty may be put into effect if a murder is part of a plan to intimidate the government or to influence government policy. This possibility for the death penalty is relevant because Muhammad and Malvo demanded that the government pay them $10 million to stop the killing spree. The fact that the trial is being held in Virginia is also very significant, because in Virginia the death penalty is allowed for offenders who have not yet reached their 18th birthdays. At the time of the murders, Malvo was 17.

Muhammad's trial began with his opening argument on October 20, 2003 just four days short of one year following his initial arrest. In a shocking turn of events, Muhammad requested permission from the court to represent himself and appoint his attorneys as standby counselors. He was granted permission to represent himself but ultimately chose for his attorneys to represent him after he made an opening statement that was ridiculed by the assistant prosecutor. As of right now, the jury has recommended a sentence of death for the murder of Dean Harold Meyers. The formal sentencing for Muhammad has been scheduled for February 12, 2004.

As for Malvo's case, the opening arguments began on November 13, 2003. In Malvo's attorney's opening arguments, it was revealed that he will attempt to convince the jury that Malvo was brainwashed by Muhammad. So far, testimonies have been heard from physiologists, a cult expert, and even a social worker. These testimonies were made in an attempt to show the brainwashing of Malvo by Muhammad. Interestingly, the social worker's testimony was to back up the defense's suggestion that Malvo's personality and actions were influenced by the pop culture movie The Matrix.

With the ongoing trial involving Malvo still up in the air and the upcoming sentencing date for Muhammad, the nation can only spectate while the fate of two accused murderers is decided.

Sniper insanity plea sparks controversy



Joanna Rogers
Editor in Chief

Last year the people of Washington, D.C. and surrounding areas were forced into fear when two men went on a killing spree. Their targets were ordinary citizens simply trying to live their lives. Today, the snipers are on trial for the 19 deaths and six injuries that crushed the lives of several families.

Typically, the outcome of this case would seem straight forward, if you kill a man and you confess, you are sentenced to death. Due to tactics used by lawyers today, however, it is possible to plead insanity and therefore muddy the waters that once seemed so clear.

The controversy in this case is whether the plead is plausible or not. Can a person really be so far off balance mentally that he has no idea how appropriate his actions are? Can a person really be brainwashed to a point where they lose all reason and feeling as a human being?

While I agree that by the end of the killing spree, Malvo was most likely unbalanced, I disagree with pleading insanity during all of the shootings. I wonder if there was a point when Malvo faced a choice. When he had the chance to decide for himself if he was going to continue on with his extemporaneous shootings or decide that it was wrong. Whatever the case, I hope he pays for the consequences of his actions. Perhaps he should not be sentenced to death, but somehow he should pay for his crimes.

Recently, in the on-going sniper trial, suspect Lee Boyd Malvo was diagnosed by the defense psychiatrist as insane.

Malvo, along with Muhammad, are responsible for the Washington-area shootings in October of 2002. The pair are accused of shooting 19 people and wounding six more in various states.

The question at hand now is whether Malvo should be recommended for the death penalty. The defense psychiatrist, Schetky has testified that Malvo was unable to tell the difference between right and wrong. In Virginia, where the trial is taking place, the key determinative of sanity is the ability to tell right from wrong. Schetky went on to say that Muhammad taught him that emotions were the enemy and should never be allowed to interfere with his paramilitary mission (CNN.com)

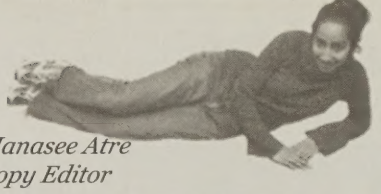
Any person who can willingly shoot 19 people and wound six more must be insane, in my opinion. Who in their right mind would take part in such a horrific event once, let alone 19 times? Anyone who can stomach such an awful event multiple times has some chemical imbalance that needs serious aid immediately. Malvo should be held responsible for his actions, but I don't the death penalty is the right way to about doing so. He should spend his life in prison receiving the medical attention he desperately needs.

Mary Rozman
Associate Editor

Over a year ago, the nation sat riveted as sniper-style shootings terrorized the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area. The agonizing weeks finally came to an end with the arrest of John Allen Muhammad and Lee Boyd Malvo. The proceedings against Malvo are in progress. Malvo is charged with killing FBI agent Linda Franklin in the commission of an act of terrorism, the killing of more than one person in a three-year period, and the unlawful use of a firearm during the crime. He is pleading insanity for his role in the sniper shootings, claiming that he was brainwashed by Muhammad.

This situation is symptomatic of people's unwillingness to accept responsibility for their actions and of people's apparently instinctive reaction to blame others. Unfortunately, it happens all the time - Democrats blame Republicans for the poor economy; students blame teachers for poor test scores; and two playmates point fingers at each other when the jar breaks. The list goes on.

Faced with a possible death penalty, it is not surprising that Malvo is claiming he should be not be held responsible for robbing innocent people of their lives. I can hear the cookie jar breaking right now.



Manasee Atre
Copy Editor

Was John Lee Malvo acting alone, when he brutally shot and killed 10 ordinary citizens performing ordinary jobs? Or rather, was he the victim of a controlling mentor and popular culture? At its core this case comes to terms with the legal terms of responsibility -- do we not all have control of what we do and what we say? Yet, Malvo's attorney in the case is pointing the finger at the violent Matrix films, and John Allen Muhammad, a man who supposedly "brainwashed" Malvo, as he real culprits behind the crime spree. Further investigations into Malvo's past however, show that his violent tendencies excited even during his adolescents years, where he used to hunt and kill small animals with slingshots.

Often times we in society forget that while circumstances may indeed have an effect on our behavior, it is in the end our decision to choose our paths in life. A faulty childhood, or simply a series of movies, is not a rationale or reason enough to murder.

The judicial system should be should be fair in this instance. Muhammad was convicted and so to should Malvo be, without the ludicrous plea of insanity.

Zafar Sayed
News Editor

If you have ever read Ken Kesey's One Flew over the Cuckoo's Nest, you will understand why I think pleading insanity is not a valid legal excuse. In the novel, a man known as Mac feigns mental illness to escape his prison punishment. By the end of the novel, unfortunately for Mac, he is brought to justice; he is lobotomized.

Lee Boyd Malvo is the now 18 year old boy who took part in the deadly sniper killings of last year. John Allen Muhammad, 42, lead the conspiracy.

Malvo is using the idea that Muhammad "brainwashed" him as his defense. Apparently, Malvo doesn't have a father figure and looked to Muhammad as that mentor. As a result of this "brainwashing" Malvo's attorney is posing to present a defense of innocent by reason of insanity. By definition , an insanity plea is a plea in which the defendant claims innocence due to mental incompetence at the time of the crime. Defense attorneys believe Malvo could not tell right from wrong.

An insanity plea is only presented in 1% of court cases and only 25% of those succeed. The famous case of John Hinkley, Jr. and the attempted assassination of Ronald Reagan in 1981 ended with a conviction of not guilty by reason of insanity.

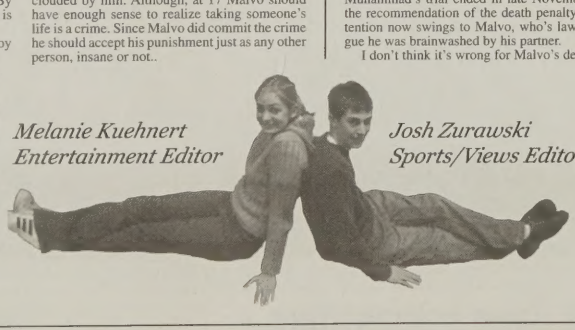
I do believe Malvo was greatly influenced by Muhammad and his mind set may have been clouded by him. Although, at 17 Malvo should have enough sense to realize taking someone's life is a crime. Since Malvo did commit the crime he should accept his punishment just as any other person, insane or not..

When the terror finally diminished from those living in the Washington D.C. with the arrests of John Muhammad and Lee Malvo, most believed they would receive the death penalty. After Muhammad's trial ended in late November with the recommendation of the death penalty, the attention now swings to Malvo, who's lawyers argue he was brainwashed by his partner.

I don't think it's wrong for Malvo's defense to claim insanity. If he was truly brainwashed, then he shouldn't receive the death penalty. The insanity clause is a part of our judicial system to ensure unstable people do not receive the death penalty. Because we know the prosecution of Malvo will be up to par due to the case's high profile nature, it's safe to assume that Malvo will not sneak his way out of the death penalty.

It would be a shame to see Malvo get the death penalty because jurors feel pressured by Muhammad's verdict. It's the jury's job to act unbiased; however, it is even more vital they don't decide he should receive the death penalty before all of the evidence is heard. The judicial system in America is founded on the basic principle that every person shall receive a fair trial. It would be a shame to our judicial system if the death penalty is recommended because jurors feel he deserves it after killing at least ten men when he was brainwashed.

Give the man a chance to defend himself. He has every right to claim insanity, just as every citizen who is 18 or older has the right to vote. If he was truly brainwashed, the jury must see past their disgrace for him. If he was acting on his own will and was not brainwashed, the evidence will come out with time.



Melanie Kuehnert
Entertainment Editor

Josh Zurawski
Sports/Views Editor

The Editorial Review

In light of recent cases of Meningitis at Manchester High School, not only have basketball games been canceled but increased fear of the condition has once again been triggered. While the viral-form has about the same effect as the flu, the bacterial-form effects the brain and the spinal chord and may be fatal. After two deaths and a third reported case of Meningitis, we believe that Manchester should be closed down by now and should be cautious not to spread the condition. In the meantime, students should continue to wash their hands and maintain a healthy diet.

Editorial Board Vote: 6 For, 0 Against

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Profanity may appear in *the Spartana* with the approval of the adviser, but only in cases of direct quotations or if it is necessary for clarity. Material which is libelous or obscene and could cause substantial and material disruption, as defined by the Supreme Court, will not be printed.

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Staff members of *the Spartana* support the First Amendment rights and oppose censorship in any form. The content of the paper is determined by the student staff. In cases of potentially controversial material the editorial board will meet to decide the content of the newspaper. Students will be assisted by the adviser in areas of professional ethics and legalities.

Teenage use of drugs leads to life-altering consequences

josh zurawski
sports editor / design editor

In 2002, there were more drug arrests in the United States than there were the next three types of arrests combined. The drug arrests, including illegal drugs and alcohol abuse, and driving under the influence, totaled more than 4.25 million. More people were arrested for drug abuse of some sort than they were for simple assault, larceny/theft, and disorderly conduct combined. Clearly people are breaking the law and getting caught. These numbers are so skewed because teens across the nation are making the wrong choice: the choice to use illegal drugs.

Nicotine is one of the most addictive drugs available to teens. Reasons for smoking as a teenager include the slight buzz one gets, the image, and peer pressure. There's nothing more disgusting than a smoker. Holding a simple conversation is difficult because I don't want to inhale 250 harmful toxins, 43 of which will lead to cancer. This image that teens think is cool is really a disgusting and harmful habit. So what if you smoke because of the buzz, not the image? Before long you can smoke two or three cigarettes in a row and get no buzz, and by that time the smoker is totally addicted to the nicotine. Now you're addicted to cigarettes that give you nothing but cancer and emphysema. 28 Hoosiers die every day from cancer and emphysema. To replace these lost smokers, tobacco companies target us, teenagers. Naive and careless, teens do not realize how hard it is to stop smoking once you start. Tobacco companies add more and more nicotine to their products every year, making it even harder to quit. Nicotine is a very addictive drug because once you have a little, you want more. Once you have more you want even more. So you think you'll able to smoke only on the weekends with your friends? WRONG. Your once a week habit will quickly turn into one smoke a day, and in turn into a pack a day, and so on. Heavy smokers, those who smoke a pack a day or more increase their chance of contracting lung cancer to nearly 60%. Say you start smoking a pack a day when you are 18 and continue for thirty years. Chances are you will contract lung cancer. The dangerous part about lung cancer: 90% fatality rate. If you smoke a pack a day or more you have a 54% chance of dying. Let's review. Teens smoke because they want a buzz. The buzz will fade away and the nicotine becomes addictive. The more nicotine you have the more you want. Smoking a cigarette on the weekend will quickly turn into a pack a day. You smoke a pack a day you have a 54% chance of dying. And you thought smoking was cool. Good call.

Marijuana is an illegal drug, regardless of your age. We all know this, yet teens around America, buy, sell, grow, and smoke pot. The active drug in marijuana, THC, causes the "high" feeling when a person lights up. Because of this feeling the drug is deemed illegal. If everyone in American consumed marijuana on a regular basis, our country would go downhill because there would be no motivation from the individual to fulfill their duties at school or work. The high feeling becomes extremely addicting. Not only is the habit addicting, it is extremely costly. It costs somewhere between five and seven dollars a smoke, which adds up over time. A person who smokes pot once a week would spend around 312 dollars a year. A person who smokes pot daily would spend over 2000 dollars a year. The cost alone is enough to keep me away from the drug. Unless you grow your own, you have no idea how many hands it has been through before it reaches you, the buyer. And by this time, who knows what's actually in the little zip lock bag you buy. The most potent type of marijuana is 1000 times as potent as the least. This is a vast difference in the world of drugs, and unless you do chemical tests before you buys, you'll never know what you're getting. To review once again, pot is mentally addicting drug that becomes costly, and leads to major motivational problems, as well as possible run-ins with the law.

"Fortunately, there are ways to lead a drug free life. Find a group of friends who don't drink and smoke on the weekends, or anytime for that matter. When you're with this group of trusted friends, find something to do that can occupy time to stay away from those temptations."

Alcohol is easily the most prevailing illegal drug at Homestead. There are endless stories of students this year at Homestead who have been in trouble with the law because they were getting trashed at a party. One story I know of is a male student here at Homestead got pulled over for going nine over the speed limit at 11 on his way home. He had one, only one, beer before he left. The officer gave him a breathalizer test him and he blew .035, far below the legal limit for driving. The problem was that he was a minor, and so he went to court facing minor consumption charges. In the end he lost his license for 30 days and was sentenced to 16 hours of community service. Another is that of a student athlete who was at a party when the neighbors notified the police. The police gave him a breathalizer test everyone who was at the party, and he blew .035. While he has yet to go to court, he was benched for 4 games, and he is under severe punishment on the home front. It would be odd for a Monday to pass without hearing the rumors of kids who get in trouble with the law or their family for getting wasted at a part on a Friday or Saturday night. These rumors spread faster than you would believe, and with a small community like Aboite it doesn't take long before parents hear the rumors. The last thing I would want is to go over to a friend's house knowing that their parents have no respect for me. Respect. At age 16, respect means a great deal. Getting caught blowing .035 is not the way to win respect in my eyes. At age 16, why run the risk of getting caught drinking when you can drink legally in five years. You have your whole lifetime ahead of you to drink. For now, it's far too easy to get caught. A neighbor calls the police and now with one beer in you you're toast. Riding home with a designated driver doesn't mean you're in the clear. What if a drunk driver hits your car? The police will give a breathalizer test to everyone in both cars if he has even the slightest suspicion that alcohol was involved. Once again, toast. What happens if you get caught. It is illegal under Indiana law for a person under 21 to possess, consume, or transport alcohol. The punishments for various degrees of alcohol abuse range from 500 to 10,000 dollar fines and from 1 day to 5 years in prison. Alcohol is an illegal drug for kids our age, and the effects of getting caught once are disastrous.

Unfortunately, high school kids are hit from every angle with propaganda to use illegal drugs, whether it be from tobacco commercials or a friend at a party offering a drink or a hit. Fortunately, there are ways to lead a drug free life. Find a group of friends who don't drink and smoke on the weekends, or anytime for that matter. When you're with this group of trusted friends, find something to do that can occupy time to stay away from those temptations. Avoid places altogether where you know drugs will be present. Please use these helpful hints to lead a drug free life. I have. Every time I hear of a kid who gets in some sort of trouble because of drug use only reinforces my decision. This decision, the decision to lead a drug free life, does not mean you have to live a boring life. After almost 17 years of it I couldn't be happier.

Josh Zurawski is a junior and is the editor of the Sports and Views section and is also the design editor for the Spartana. *The views and opinions expressed in this editorial do not necessarily represent those of* the Spartana *or of its staff.*

Revolution

School starts too early for healthy learning

evan childers
writer

This is a story. It really has no point, and it really wasn't written to express any sort of disappointment, anger, or any emotion at all. It is just a point of view.

It is a story about waking up very early, which is something I despise.

It is also the story of a school day. This is how my story begins:

It is the late fall, and I wake up. Waking up in the late fall, early in the morning, is the worst feeling you can ever have. You lift your head up, and everything is fine in that split second before you realize you exist. You were deep somewhere in a subconscious maze, and suddenly all comfort and safety is gone. An alarm clock is blaring in the most awful tone you could ever imagine. Frost is covering the windows. Somewhere outside the wind is howling, and even if you cannot feel it yet, you can nevertheless sense how deathly cold the world is.

And you despair. There is no ice and there is no snow. There is no hope of a cancellation, or even delay. There is no hope at all on a school day. Sometimes I've heard that people look forward to school. But I doubt that time is at 6 am, when you are half-conscious and hate everything.

What makes you hate everything at 6am? Well, being forced to wake up gets on my nerves. Maybe that is part of it, but I am no scientist or superintendent. I would not know for sure.

So I wake up in a late fall where everyday you have to wake up is a Monday. Every day might as well be a Monday, the way it starts.

How does the day go? You might ask. Well, I will tell you:

In the beginning there is first period. I attend first period. In case you are unaware, I am the narrator and protagonist of this story. You can call me Evan Childers if you like. You can call me another name, such as Quince or Stephen, if you really want to. I am still the narrator either way.

So Evan, or Quince, goes into first period. In first, you are certainly too groggy to react well to anything. You are half-asleep and barely realize what is happening around you. It is like a dream, most of the time. And then first period is over.

Maybe in second period Evan is a little more awake, but he is still too angry at the world to try. He is tired, and his body is protesting against the cruel forces that have drawn him here. He is upset, even though there is nothing he can change about the situation.

It might be noted: being angry at what has to happen is pointless. This is something one should remember.

Third period is spent in limbo. You cannot hope for lunch yet, it is too early. You are simply hanging around. You can work, sort of, because you are sort of awake. I could get some work done in third period, I believe, but I have study hall. Every one knows it is impossible to work on trivial, pointless things when no one is forcing you to work on trivial, pointless things. And everything is trivial and pointless very early in the morning.

In fourth period, I wait.

In fifth period, I wait.

At lunch I take a break from the waiting, because as most of you know, waiting can be very hard to do. At Homestead High School, we specialize in waiting. We are so good at it here,.that it we can take up many hours in a row with it. It even takes 180 days of this waiting to accomplish what we are aiming for.

But I cannot tell you what we are aiming for. That is not a part of this story.

After lunch there is only the end of the day to look forward to, and looking forward is all we have left. By this time you are getting tired again. Despite all of your efforts, you can only look at clocks. Unfortunately, the clocks at Homestead are not comforting at all; they never seem to go anywhere.

Then the day is over. And before you know it, the week is over. It is so painfully long and short all at once. Hopefully it has begun to snow again. With the new snow and you can hope for delays and cancellations. Or maybe it is springtime, and at least the sun has begun to rise before the school day has begun. It is so painfully long and short all at once. Late fall though- it is a blur. Nothing happens. You cannot react to anything. But maybe that is not late fall, maybe that is just school seen through the very tired eyes of the students who inhabit the building. In fact it always seems to be a blur, no matter what you do.

No one can react well to school when they are forced to wake up and attend class so early in the morning. This is how I feel about going early. Maybe I wouldn't hate it as much, if we could begin later in the day. Maybe I wouldn't dread it so much if I weren't more or less ripped from sleep and tossed roughly into the confines of an institutional prison. There is not a whole lot you can do about the time at which school begins, though. There really isn't much you can do about any aspect of school. That's just the way it is. That is just one thing all students must accept about life.

I have heard scientific arguments about beginning school at a later hour. It is healthier, and quite possibly more effective for a working environment, they say. Students are more attentive, and ready to learn. But I do not like to dabble in scienctific facts. Someone once told me that a story is a better way to get a point across.

But I digress.

I return home. I go about my daily business. The day ends and I go back to sleep, in the back of my mind knowing that it will be morning all too soon and I will have to get up early all over again.

That is my story. Or maybe it isn't a story, maybe it is just a point of view. Either way, it is over now.

The end.

Evan Childers is a junior and is a writer and works for the Spartana. *The views and opinions expressed in this editorial do not necessarily represent those of* the Spartana *or of its staff.*

NFL playoffs coming down to the wire

The Bleacher Bum discusses this year's competition

tim clark
writer

Who wants to be this years Superbowl Champion? Cue the cricket chirping. Well if the last few years have been any implication any team that has won a Superbowl has seen its team gone to mediocrity or even worse.

I'm sure though, that any team would love to win the Superbowl. Even if it meant a bad season the next time. But away from that mysterious fact, this years dash for a playoff spot may come down to the final game of the season.

Let's put this into perspective. With 3 weeks remaining you would normally see the majority of the playoff format taking shape. But that is just the opposite. Sure New England and St. Louis have clinched their divisions but look at the remaining divisions or playoff berths. Almost all of those are still very much up for grabs in this years highly competitive NFL.

9 teams have been mathematically eliminated for this years postseason (Arizona, Atlanta, Chicago, Detroit, Houston, Jacksonville, N.Y. Giants, Oakland and San Diego.) Indianapolis, Kansas City, Philadelphia, Carolina, and Minnesota can all possibly clinch their divisions this weekend. That's not to say however any of these teams will clinch their division till the last week. Thus, this means that every team is going to have to play 100% to win their divisions, and perhaps a little luck for some teams not already in first place.

So far this year has been full of surprises and upsets. Some of this might attribute to the closeness of the playoff race but wither way the surprises have been both bad and good for teams. Take the Dallas Cowboys. After going 5-11 last year the Cowboys already have an 8-5 record under their belt, good enough for being second in the NFC east.

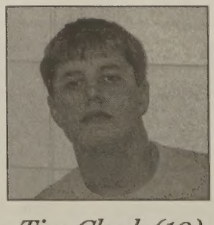
Another surprising team has to be the Cincinnati Bengals. After going 2-14 last year the Bengals are 7-6. After having won four straight games the Bengals lost a heartbreaking loss to the Baltimore Ravens, first place in the AFC north.

A few infamous surprises have come about this year as well. Quite possibly the biggest of these is the play of the defending Superbowl champion and runner-up Tampa Bay Buccaneers and the Oakland Raiders. Both have had poor seasons and Oakland is already out of playoff contention while the 'Bucs are struggling to stay in contention for a wild-card.

Quite a few good teams from last year have also faltered this year. Take the San Francisco 49'ers and Pittsburgh Steelers. San Francisco went 10-6 last year. Yet this year they are a mediocre 6-7. Pittsburgh went 10-5-1 last year but have faltered to a dismal 5-8.

So once again let's return to the fact of Superbowl champions. You could say it was dumb luck the past few years for these poor Superbowl teams. Or you could say their team has changed in some way. Either way no one knows how this year is going to end up. As we've seen all the upsets this year you never know.

Could it be the Dallas Cowboys turn to taste glory again or could it even be the underdog Bengals. It might even just be one of the favorites, the Kansas City Chiefs. Either way it's time to get that big screen ordered. So after you do that; Sit back, relax, and hang on for the ride! Are you ready for some football?



Tim Clark (10)

Tim Clark is a sophomore and is a writer and works for the Spartana. *The views and opinions expressed in this editorial do not necessarily represent those of* the Spartana *or of its staff.*

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the Spartana
EMINENCE
(em'ə-nəns) n. a person of high station or great achievments

#1 in state

photos/ zach hetrick

After starting the season second in state, the boys swim team made a run past Carmel after a multi-record breaking weekend. For the first time in the school's history, the team has positioned itself above the entire field of competition. Now the team focuses on remaining on top long enough to earn another first-a state title.

tyler keena
designer

The boys' swim and dive team is entering the year with a very good team and hopes for a successful season.

Prior to the start of the season, the boys had three club meets for SWAC, which is comprised mostly of the Homestead boys' swim and dive team. They won all three meets and are heading into the high school season with momentum and hoping to keep up their success.

The team has their sights set high for their season because of their very strong squad with some great swimmers and divers.

"We're going for a state title," said Jon Ranochak (12). Ranochak added that the team has great comaraderie and hoping that their team's cohesiveness will help them be more successful throughout the season.

In their first major meet of the season, the Spartans were victorious in a blowout against Snider High School, 136-44. Numerous individuals won events for the team. Helping boost the score were the three divers, Dan Frebel (11), Cameron Hansbarger (10), David Piercy (10). They are considered a strong point for the team.

"The divers will help quite a bit this year," said Dan Frebel. "We have one of the best diving programs in the area [and maybe] the state. We have three really good divers and most teams can't compete with that and we'll be able to cover some of the points that the swimmers miss. Our goal is to send all three of [the divers] to state and help add some points to the team."

Earlier this week the team took over the number one spot in the state passing defending champion Carmel. This happened due to a successful weekend at the boys own invitational in which many records were set for that invitational. This week the boys team swam past Bellmont. The boys hope to stay above Carmel, and will match up with them in January.

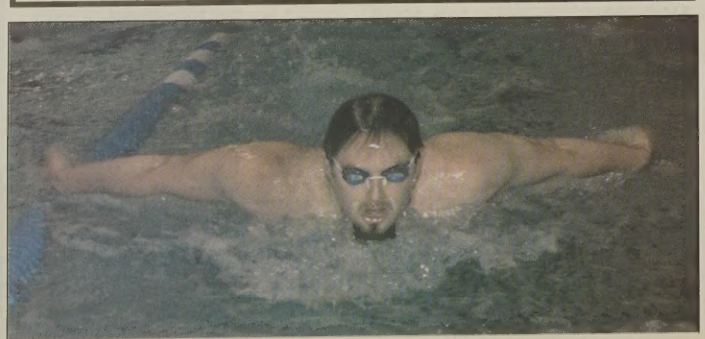
Above: Joe Colley (12) works in practice. Right: Sean Miller (12) works in practice in preparation for the 200 free. Bottom Right: Jon Ranochak (12) swims the butterfly. As of now he is ranked 4th in the state in this event. Below: Kyle Mundell (12) comes up for air and checks his time at the Bellmont meet.

Swim Facts and Accolades:

- Obtained a number one ranking in state
- Returned seven of the nine swimmers that qualified for state from last season
- 200 Medley Relay ranked 1st in state
- 400 Free Relay ranked 1st in state
- 200 Free Relay ranked 4th in state
- Returning three divers expecting a second trip to state
- 17 different events are ranked state wide

Upcoming Meets

January 6	Columbia City	Home
January 10	Carmel	Home
January 12	Carroll	Away
January 15	NHC Dive	Home
January 17	NHC	Home
January 20	Norwell	Home



the Spartana
ENTERTAINMENT
December 19, 2003 Contact the Entertainment Editor at theSpartana@hotmail.com

photocourtesy/istock

The Seasonal Economy

Predicted economic forecast cloudy at best, economists say

zafar sayed
news editor

As the holiday season rapidly approaches, many students look favorably upon the upcoming vacation filled with family and friends. American retailers, on the other hand, may have something to be unhappy about this Christmas Day, December 25th. According to a dismal survey by the Consumer Federation of America and the Credit Union National Association, consumer spending this winter may leave much to be desired -- facts in stark contrast to the financial outcome predicted by most private economists this year. In what has proven to be an economic recession, many stores around the country are now faced with the problem of making enough of a profit this year.

In a national poll of 1,017 adults, conducted from November 13th-16th, results showed that 34 percent of consumers would likely spend less this year than in past years. This was a 13 percent jump from a similar survey performed only a year before, in 2002. Alongside this information, only 15 percent willingly said that they would spend more than the last holiday season.

Economists from both of these organizations believe that perhaps the repayment of debt, as well as a general fear in the instability of the marketplace, could have caused such an outcome.

"This survey tells us that consumers are still more nervous about the economy than we might have expected. Their confidence in the recovering economy is lagging the actual growth in the economy," chief economist at the Credit Union National Association, Bill Hampel said.

While the survey has not been adjusted to realistically portray dollar amounts spent on goods, any rise in holiday sales will be little at best. In short, the predictions of economic upturn may be overrated to some.

"I don't expect holiday spending to shrink this year, but I do expect us to have much weaker holiday spending than some analysts are expecting," Hampel said.

Not even top clothing stores in Fort Wayne have escaped the dismal sales season. Jefferson Pointe American Eagle Assistant Manager Thomas Brownis points out that while sales have been fairly brisk, there is a decrease when compared to last year.

On top of such sentiments, adverse weather conditions, such as snow storms on the East coast and in the Midwest, could once again negatively affect any sales this winter. Still, analysts also believe other avenues for trade may become much more readily used in such an instance.

"This storm undoubtedly will hurt sales . . . but it could also trigger a different response where it shifts demand to other channels such as the Internet, catalogs, and to gift cards," senior economist with the Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi, Michael Niemira said, to a CNN source.

In fact, statistics from ComScore Networks, a internet research firm, show that online shopping has increased by 30% from last year and is expected to reach nearly 12.6 billion dollars this year. Comparison shopping, which allows the consumer to surf for products through search engines like Yahoo and Ask Jeeves, is also a new development used to alleviate these economic issues.

"There's not much pent-up demand. Consumers have already spent up demand."

-Scott Hoyt, for Economy .com

Yet, a general consensus as to the far reaching effects of this season have yet to be acsertained. Discount stores such as Target and Wal-Mart may perform as always, while department stores could quite possibly continue to lost percentage points in sales. Many shopping centers are combating the recent downward trends with large discount sales.

With only a couple of days left until Christmas, the fate of many chains and retailers this season is still undecided. Alongside a national economic recession, it remains to be seen whether companies will be able to survive this "winter storm" that has left many businesses and economist skeptical of previous holiday optimism.

Source: money.cnn.com

How to Budget *for the Season*

Know your weaknesses

Know if seeing "that" gift for someone will cause you to splurge. Make a list of exactly what you want to buy and restrict yourself.

Leave the Plastic at Home

Cash is the easiest thing to spend and when it's gone, it's gone. Carrying a credit or debt card will only give you the opportunity to wipe out your bank account because you have the option.

Making a List

Take the time before your shopping to make a tangible list that includes all the people you are purchasing for, ideas of gifts, and a set spending limit.

Set a Limit

Before heading out to the store, decide exactly how much you can spend on each individual. Don't forget to add in costs of wrapping, decorations, and postage to your holiday budget.

An Inexpensive Gift

While baking holiday cookies, put together an extra batch and take them to neighbors or family. Also, offering to baby-sit, clean up the yard, or giving other intangible presents can be a valuable gifts. As always, the homemade gift keeps the price low while bringing up the sentimental value.

Avoid the Sale

Don't buy something just because it is on sale. If the "biggest sale of the year" does not satisfy a gift on you list, skip the discount.

Think about the Charities

By giving money to a charity in someone's name, you will get a tax deduction and the recipient will know that you really care about the less fortunate.

Shopping Online

During the holiday, many online stores will offer free shipping or additional discounts. By purchasing gifts online, you will save gas, money, energy, and time that can be spent at the stores. Online shopping is not for the procrastinator, however. You need to allow at least seven days for gifts to arrive.

Budget your Time

Running out at the last minute to buy a gift will only result in paying top dollar. Spend time searching for the right gift at the right price to keep your bank account from having a terrible holiday.

The "Family Gift"

If you have a large family and do not have the finances to spend on each person, suggest picking names and only purchasing a gift for that individual. Everyone still receives a gift, and the giver saves money.

Source: google.com

2c
December 19, 2003

the Spartana
EXHORTATIVE

(ig-zor t -tiv) adj. intending to encourage, incite, or advise

Spartan Briefs

Movies

—Something's Gotta Give—

Jack Nicholson stars in this PG-13 rated film about an older man who starts to reconsider his life after suffering a heart attack at the house of his, old enough to be his daughter, girlfriend's mother (Diane Keaton). The doctor (Keanu Reeves) who helps in the recuperation process begins to find himself attracted to the old enough to be his mother character. Nicholson's character also begins to take an interest in the woman his own age which results in a competition between the two. This movie debuted December 12.

Stuck on You

A comedy starring Matt Damon and Greg Kinnear as conjoined twins heading west to Hollywood with one twin in hopes of making it big as a star. After they arrive, they are cast on a television show starring Cher, who at first is disappointed in being relegated to TV, but then finds it to be a hit. *Stuck on You* is rated PG-13 and was released the week of December 15.

Mona Lisa Smile

Opening December 19, *Mona Lisa Smile* stars Julia Roberts as a Berkeley graduate who accepts the position of a teacher at Wellesley, an all-girls' college, in 1953. There, Julia Roberts' character makes an impact on her students' lives, encouraging intellectual freedom. Students include Julia Stiles, Kirsten Dunst, and Maggie Gyllenhaal. The movie rated PG-13 for sexual content and thematic issues.

Cheaper by the Dozen

This PG rated remake of the 1950 Walter Lang film about an efficiency expert (Steve Martin) who tries to control his crazy, patience-trying family with the same principles he uses in the corporate world, much to his disadvantage. This movie debuts on Christmas Day.

Calendar Girls

Comedy-drama about a group of older women who pose nude in a calendar to raise money for a medical research charity after the husband of one of the women is diagnosed with leukemia. Inspired by a true story and rated PG-13 for nudity, the movie stars Helen Mirren and Julia Walters and debuts today.

Paycheck

This movie, debuting December 25 is directed by John Woo and stars Ben Affleck as Micheal Jennings, a brilliant computer specialist. Rated PG-13, the movie is about a man who is hired by a high-tech corporation that works on top-secret projects. After his job is finished, his short-term memory is erased so he does not divulge any sensitive company information to his future clients. In the movie, Jennings expects to earn $4.4 billion at the end of his latest 3-year project.

—Love Don't Cost a Thing—

Nick Cannon and Christina Milian remake the 1987 movie Can't Buy Me Love. Cannon stars as a dorky fool who pays a cheerleader (Milian) to act as his girlfriend to boost his popularity. This movie opened in theaters on December 12 and is rated PG-13 for sexual content/humor.

Cold Mountain

Based on the best-selling, National Book Award-winning novel by Charles Frazier, *Cold Mountain* is the story of a wounded civil war solider, Inman (Jude Law) who survives fatal war injuries. Inman begins to walk home to Cold Mountain, N.C. so he can return to his true love, Ada (Nicole Kidman). As for the heart-broken Ada she struggles to care for her deceased father's farm. A witty wanderer, Renée Zellweger, stumbles up on the far and stays to help Ada. This movie debuts on Dec. 25 and is rated R.

Peter Pan

The PG-rated update of the beloved children's book by James M. Barrie is released on Dec. 25. This movie stars Jeremy Sumpler as Peter and Jason Issacs as Captain Hook.

—Upcoming Sequels—

December 17 brought the third installment of *The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King*. *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*, also a third installment, opens on June 4. 2004 brings *Scooby Doo 2* (March 26, 2004), *Shrek 2* (May 21), *Spiderman 2* (July 2), and *Star Wars: Episode III* (May 25, 2005).

Philharmonic

Continuing until December 20, the Fort Wayne Philharmonic Pops concert features an orchestra, chorus, and soloists playing and singing the best of the holiday season. The concert will take place at the Embassy Theater, all shows beginning at 8:00 p.m. Tickets range from $25-53. Call 456-2224 for more information.

Calendar

12.19 *Mona Lisa Smile* and *Calendar Girls* opens. 12.20 Philharmonic Pops concert at Embassy Theater. 12.25 *Paycheck*, *Cheaper by the Dozen*, *Cold Mountain*, and *Peter Pan* open at theaters.

Textiles warm Community

[redacted]javed sayed
writer

When students take fashion and textiles, they sign up for a class that combines the study of textiles and the creation of their own fashions. Fashion and textiles, taught by Denise Geller, is a class that allows students to be creative while working in a relaxing environment. In addition, fashion and textiles supports the community by making quilts for the Head Start program.

Early in the semester, students enrolled in fashion and textiles to learn about clothing, fabric, and the art of design. After the completion of their study, students have to do a practice project where they make a basic quilt square. The practice project shows a students ability to accurately sew. Once their practice project is successfully completed the students get to do a projects of their choice. These open ended projects give students the opportunity to design and make their own creation.

"Fashion and textiles serves as an outlet for creativity, but students also learn basic skills [for life]," Geller said.

Not only does fashion and textiles allow students to be creative, but it teachers them valuable lessons for life. Students must learn to spend their time wisely and set goals in order for them to get their work done on time.

"Students learn the importance of personal goal setting when taking this class," Geller said.

The fashion and textile class also allows students to relax if they take tough courses since the class requires virtually no paperwork. Also, recent studies have shown that sewing helps to relieve stress, which is just another way this class is beneficial to students. Plus, most of the work that is given in fashion and textiles can be completed while in class.

"The class is a good stress reliever." Geller said. "Its a nice break from other classes."

As well as learning about fashion, students who take fashion and textiles also help the community by making quilts for the Head Start program. The practice quilt squares created by students in the class are used to piece together these quilts.

"The quilt project grew out of the practice project," Geller said.

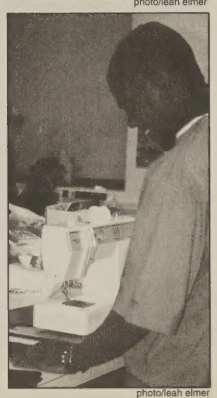
In the second semester, groups of two or three students work to make and finish more squares. Once done, the students combine the squares to make the finished quilts. These quilts are later handed to the children who attend Head Start. The children at Head Start use the quilts during their nap time.

Originally Geller was planning on making small quilts to give mothers who could not afford to buy blankets for their infants. However, a student in one of Geller's classes pointed out that there was a need for blanket at Head Start. Geller therefore decided to give the quilts to Head Start.

All in all, fashions and textiles is a gateway for students to explore their creative side at school. The class also allows students to give back to the community by making quilts for children Head Start programs.

photo/zach hetrick

photo/leah elmer



photo/leah elmer

photo / leah elmer

First period textiles students work diligently on their current project of making small squares to be sewn together to make a large blanket. All members of the class work together to form squares, which are then sewn together. Holly Thompson (9) cuts material for a quilting square while Rachel Schenk (9) supervises and Amy Recht (9) threads the sewing machine. At top, Susie Alvarado (9) threads a needle, focused intently on her task. Exchange student Saidu Kamara (10), from Liberia, uses the sewing machine to work on a patch for the quilt.

Epic comes to a close: The Return of the King

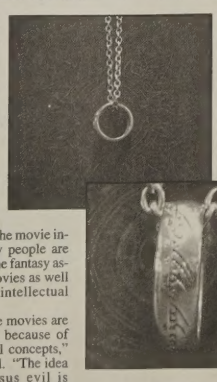
Over 200 students spend a day in the world of hobbits.

[redacted]ashley butler
designer

On December 17, more than 200 theatre, television production, and film students went to Rave Motion Pictures at Jefferson Pointe to watch "The Lord of the Rings: Return of the King."

The trip coincided with curriculums in all of the classes, and provided an enjoyable stray from daily academics.

"Mrs. Ricker and I both tried to find something that all of our classes could attend for a field trip," Ed Koczergo, drama department director, said. "We like to go to the Lord of the Rings movie because they are more appealing to the students; we've gone to them for the last few years."



The "Lord of the Rings" trilogy has been highly successful in the movie industry. Many people are interested in the fantasy aspect of the movies as well as the more intellectual ideas.

"I think the movies are so successful because of their universal concepts," Koczergo said. "The idea of good versus evil is shown throughout the films."

The series offers the viewer with more than just a simple story line; in fact, the movies provide numerous life lessons.

"It's amazing how all of the different cultures come together to return the ring to where it was created," Koczergo said. "Through the character's actions, many cultures are brought together; the elves, hobbits, humans, and so on, to fight the terrible evil."

In preparation for the trip, many of the film and television production classes studied and discussed film technique, story line, and the unique transfer from the Lord of the Rings novels to the movies themselves.

As well as learning the cinematic elements of the movies, students watched both of the preceding movies in class before viewing "Return of the King."

"I really liked the fact that we got to watch the movies in class ahead of time," Eric Defreeuw (11) said. "It really helped people who hadn't seen the movies before to understand the plot."

After viewing the movie, students were able to get lunch at Jefferson Pointe. Most students ate at the Food Court, while some dined in restaurants with quick service. The students had an opportunity to go do their holiday shopping if they had extra time after eating.

Classes from the fine arts department have taken field trips of this nature in the past.

"We have gone [to a movie] several times, however we haven't gone every year," Koczergo said.

Before the "Lord of the Rings" trilogy came to theaters, the classes saw Pleasantville at Coventry 13.

Last year, students went to "The Two Towers," but far less attended the showing. Because of the increase in students who attended this year, more chaperones were needed for the trip than had been needed before.

"Last year was wonderful because we had the theater all to ourselves," Koczergo said.

This year, due to the ever-increasing demand for tickets, the 9:30 a.m. showing was open to the public.

The field trip lasted all day, with students leaving at 8:30 a.m. and arriving back at school around 2:00 p.m in time for the dismissal bell..

photos/zach hetrick

Film and Video members Neel Patel, Evan Childers, and Sally Shinabarger pose with Sally's life-sized posters of Lord of the Rings characters. Sally was given the ring pictured at left, complete with elfish engraving as a gift from her father. The three attended the first showings of the first two movies.

(in-vig´ -rāt´) v.
to impart strength
or vitality; stimulate

the Spartana
INVIGORATE

3c
December 19, 2003

Lung cancer; leading killer

caitlin myers
writer

It is the most common form of cancer diagnosed in the United States. It accounts for 14 percent of all cancers and 28 percent of all cancer deaths. Cigarette smoking is responsible for an estimated 87 percent of these deaths. What is it? Lung cancer.

The air is a major necessity for the human population, unfortunately, the air we breathe is not pure. Industrial exposures, cigarette smoke, air pollution and cancer causing substances known as carcinogens all increase the risk of developing lung cancer.

Cigarette smoking is the leading cause for this cancer and the second most common cause is Radon. Radon is a radioactive gas that is released from the normal decay of uranium in rocks and soil. Everyday, we breathe radon in, but, in most cases at relatively low levels. People who breathe it in at very high levels, however, are at an increased risk for developing lung cancer. Houses that are well insulated are at a higher risk of having radon. Usually the basement and first floors have the highest radon levels because they are closer to the ground. Radon tends to enter the home through cracks in floors, walls or foundations. Studies have shown that the majority of radon-related cancer deaths occur among cigarette smokers. The only way to know if a person's home has elevated levels of radon is testing, which is highly recommended by Health authorities.

Besides Radon, other chemical exposures can heighten the risk of lung cancer. A common chemical is arsenic, which is used in glass, pigments, paint, smelting and tanning. Another chemical that makes up deadly carcinogens is hydrocarbon, which is found in coal, petroleum products, gasoline, tar and other substances. Other potential chemicals that increase the risk of lung cancer are Isopropyl alcohol, nickel and mustard gas.

Secondhand smoke was reported in 1986 by the Surgeon General to have caused some cases of lung cancer. If you do not smoke, but are around someone who does you still inhale the "sidestream" smoke, which is the vapor and fumes inhaled by the non-smoker directly from the lit end of the cigarette. Even the sidestream smoke contains extremely deadly carcinogens and co-carcinogens which distinctly increase the risk of lung cancer.

Women and smoking cigarettes are not a good combination. This year alone, lung cancer will kill around 68,800 women in the United States. Studies have shown that women are approximately 1.5 times more likely than men to develop lung cancer. In the year 2000, an estimated 1 of every 4 cancer deaths were women as well as 1 of every 8 newly diagnosed cancer victims.

Fortunately, there are new treatments that have increased survival rates. If the lung cancer is found during the early stages of the development, it is possible that the cancer can be helped or even cured.

photo illustration / josh zurawski, zach hetrick

The *silent* killer

sarah kennedy
writer

Imagine 1,000 families being robbed everyday. Robbed of a parent, sister, brother, uncle, cousin, friend,or daughter, and all the family can do is watch him/her die. Smoking takes the lives of 1,000 people a day due to smoking-related causes. And each day, 3,000 children replace the dead by lighting up for the first time.

"Smoking was a huge mistake for me," former smoker Aaron Franz said. "I started for stupid reasons and I wish I never had. All smoking did for me was make me unhealthy and worse at sports."

There are many risks associated with smoking that people should be aware of before they begin. Some of these include: stroke, mouth and throat cancer, lung cancer, emphysema, bronchitis, asthma, heart disease or heart attack, high cholesterol, high blood pressure, diabetes, bladder cancer, and pepticular and stomach cancer. Smoking is also associated with mental illness and can cause premature aging and wrinkles. Gum disease, lung hemorrhage, multiple sclerosis, and gastric ulcers are some lesser-known effects of smoking. All of these risks are serious and need to be considered by smokers before they light up again.

"I'm worried about kids today smoking without knowing what could happen," Franz said. "If I would have known the risks, I would have never started."

"Smoker's cough" is the body's attempt to protect itself from the harmful chemicals that enter the lungs each time the smoker inhales. "Smoker's cough" can trigger back pain and lead to the deterioration of the disks that cushion the spine. Also, a smoker's wounds heal slower than those of a nonsmoker, and, as a result, people who smoke take longer to recover from surgery and accidents. Smoking can also make drugs or dietary supplements less effective (such as vitamin C supplements).

"Smoking was a huge mistake for me. I started for stupid reasons and I wish I never had."

-Aaron Franz
former smoker

However, not only smokers have to worry about the effects that cigarettes cause. Secondhand smoke is an extremely serious problem for a person's health. Secondhand smoke is a mixture of side stream smoke from the burning end of the cigarette and the fumes inhaled by the smoker. Secondhand smoke contains over 4,000 substances, more than forty of which are known to cause cancer. Secondhand smoke has many effects, including pneumonia, bronchitis, ear infections, severe asthma attacks, and sudden infant death syndrome.

Cigarettes contain several known chemicals that have been identified and classified as cancer and disease causing. Tar is a main ingredient in cigarettes and is harmful to the mouth, throat and lungs. Nicotine is a component that the public has been widely informed of and responsible for the majority of the addiction that comes with cigarettes. In small doses, nicotine acts as a depressant. Nicotine can affect the heart, blood vessels and hormones. It reaches the brain within 10 seconds of intake, and begins to affect the central nervous system.

It has been found that cigarette companies purposely add dangerous nicotine to cigarettes in order to make them taste better and to make them more addictive. They even add nicotine to the filters of cigarettes, so the chemical is well absorbed into the body.

The best way to avoid the harmful effects of smoking is to quit smoking all together. When a person quits, the body starts to repair itself almost immediately. With good nutrition, activity, and exercise, the body can usually regain normal functioning of the lung and heart within a few years.

Although there are some effects of smoking that are irreversible, the only results that incessant smoking can bring are more serious problems.

See smoking editorial on page 5b

Flu vaccination stems outbreak

rohith iyer
associate copy editor

As the winter season approaches, it brings with it a variety of infections, including viruses and the dreaded "flu". Health officials have predicted that this year may turn out to be one of the worst flu seasons years. There are many methods for avoiding these infections. The most common form of effective prevention against infection is the flu vaccine.

"I get a flu shot every year because it is a good form of immunity against flu and viruses," Neil Johnson (10) said.

As of now, the flu vaccine is the best and most effective known manner in which one can prevent the risk of flu and viruses.

The best time to get the flu vaccine is from early October to mid-November. Although many believe that a flu vaccination will be effective immediately after it is given, it takes at least two weeks after the vaccination for antibodies to start to develop, and it takes up to even two months for the vaccination to be fully effective.

Homestead Registered Nurse Beth Quigley has already seen some flu cases this year.

"Of the students that I have seen with flu symptoms, most had not yet gotten a flu shot, " Quigley said.

The Center for Disease Control (CDC) in Atlanta, Georgia decides what the flu vaccine will contain each year. The flu vaccine usually will prevent the most common and prevalent infections. However, many people think that if they take a flu shot, they will be immune to all of the types of flu viruses. But with the numerous varieties of flu viruses that exist, it is impossible for the vaccine to prevent all of them.

According to doctors, younger people are at less risk of getting a cold virus. However, the CDC urges everyone to get a proper flu vaccination every year.

This winter season has marked a sharp increase in the demand for the flu vaccination across the world. The CDC said that all 83 million doses of vaccine made for this flu season had been distributed. Because more people than usual were vaccinated in October and November, doctors in some regions may run out.

In London, record numbers of people have gotten the flu shot. About 28,000 people have already received the shot from the health unit across the city, and more are expected to receive vaccination. Shortage of the flu shot in the United States has left health officials scrambling to figure out how to ration the remaining supplies to the parts of the country that have been hit hardest by the flu this year.

The flu kills 36,000 Americans a year on average and hospitalizes 114,000. But this year is expected to be worse than the average. This is mostly because the vaccine is not a perfect match for the various infections now in circulation.

States across the nation are working to deal with the flu and the vaccine shortage. Several cases of the flu have already been reported, with some states reporting cases of even death. Colorado has reported more than 3,600 cases this season, and six children have died as a result. In New Mexico, three children died of suspected flu over Thanksgiving weekend. Los Angeles health officials have reported that 138,000 vaccinations have been given, and requests for 7,000 more have been denied due to shortage. Other states suffering from major shortage include Arkansas and Virginia, and health officials in those states have advised that preventative measures like hand-washing and avoiding crowds be taken to prevent risk of infection.

Shortages of the flu shot could boost sales of the needle-free vaccine FluMist. Since FluMist is more expensive than a traditional flu shot, there is plenty of the nasal spray vaccine available. Only 400,000 doses out of the roughly 4 million doses made have been distributed to pharmacies and flu vaccine sites. Some health agencies are recommending that those who can use FluMist should use it to save the traditional vaccine for others.

"I think it's important to at least get some form of flu vaccination every year because it helps you to avoid infection," Trevor Terrell (10) said. "Its important that I don't fall sick during the winter season because I play basketball, and it would affect my game."

As the winter season brings viruses and infections, one can reduce their risk of getting the flu by obtaining a flu vaccination.

Quick Facts About the Flu Shot

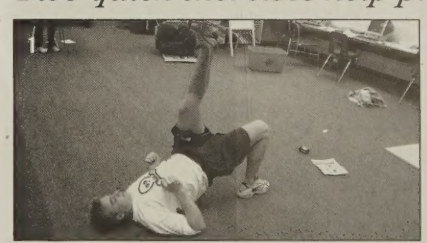
*A flu shot is not effective immediately after it is given.

*The best time to take a flu shot is from early October to mid-November.

*The influenza vaccine does not make one immune to all types of the flu virus, only the most common strains.

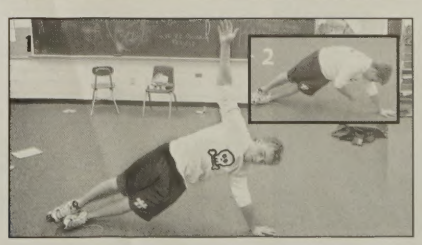
How To... achieve instant abs

Two quick exercises help prevent unsightly holiday pounds



Push body into a bridge position while laying on back; support weight with feet and arms.

Bring one leg straight up into the air without moving the rest of the body. Slowly move the leg out to the sides.



Push body straight up on side with one arm extended into the air and legs together in the back.

Curve body forward while still keeping opposite arm outstretched and wrap extended arm around body.

4c
December 19, 2003

the Spartana TRAVERSE

(trə -vûrs) v. To travel across, over, or through.

Celebrating the Holidays

suhasini bhargava
associate entertainment editor

The jingling of bells, streets covered in white by the fresh snow, and decorated homes glistening with hundreds of holiday lights indicate the arrival of the holiday season in the city. In addition to the seasonal celebrations and festivities, the holiday months of the year have also brought the annual Festival of Trees and a production of the Nutcracker to Fort Wayne.

Featuring more than 100 Christmas trees adorned with ornaments from around the region, the Festival of Trees is open for the public during December. This festival is held at the Embassy Theater located on West Jefferson Boulevard. The Christmas trees are available for purchasing throughout the duration of the festival. Profits from the Christmas tree sales are used to aid the Embassy with theatrical productions including dances, plays, and concerts. The Festival of trees entails window displays and numerous other holiday decorations.

Directed by Karen-Gibbons Brown, The Nutcracker was performed by members of the Fort Wayne Ballet from December 5 through December 14. The performance showcased classic ballet with music by Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky. The performance of The Nutcracker was sponsored by Lincoln Financial Group, Target stores, Build-a-bear workshops, and other local businesses.

The Nutcracker featured the story of a young girl Clara whose godfather is a renowned toymaker. When Clara's godfather makes a nutcracker for her, the nutcracker grows overnight into a life-sized nutcracker. This musical ballet continues to show the struggle of Clara to save the Nutrcracker Prince from the Mouse Queen.

Jenna Bruin (9) participated in Fort Wayne Ballet's production of The Nutcracker. To become involved in the production, performers had to audition for roles. Students at Fort Wayne Ballet were given roles depending on the levels of their classes. Bruin danced in the flower core and the snow core.

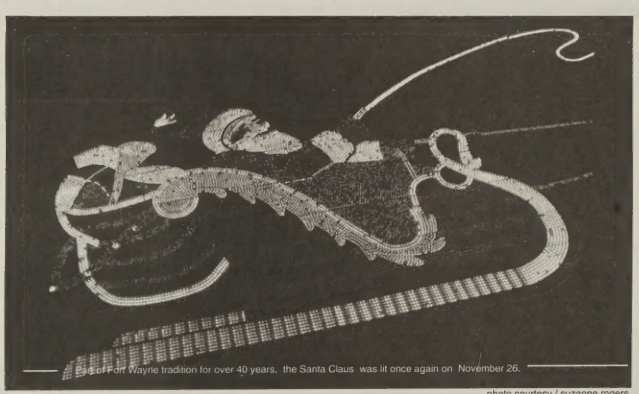
"They [the performances] have been pretty good," Bruin said. "The performance for our sponsors on Thursday was really great. The flower core did really well during that performance."

The Nutcracker was performed 12 times during this holiday season at the Fort Wayne Performing Arts Center. The shows ended with a Sunday matinee performance on December 14.

The Fort Wayne Museum of Art participated in holiday celebrations by hosting a seasonal exhibit of clay art and stained glass. The exhibit, "Festivity," offered a free presentation of the animated feature for children, "Northpoint." A second exhibition, "From Mickey to Grinch: Art of the Animated Film," allowed audiences to learn about the life of animator George H. Nicholas. Throughout his career, Nicholas worked for several studios in Hollywood in addition to working for Walt Disney. The museum also offered opportunity for customers to purchase stained glass windows, original jewelry, and Blenko glass. This holiday event was held on November 30 from noon to 5:00 p.m. at the Fort Wayne Museum of Art.

Downtown Fort Wayne's holiday ceremonies commenced on November 26 with the lighting of the Santa Claus and reindeer at the National City Bank. The lighting of the Santa Claus and reindeer at the intersection of Main and Calhoun Streets was followed by the lighting of the Christmas Tree at the downtown branch of the Wells Fargo bank at the corner of Main and Wayne street. The city also attracted crowds to the Night of Lights at the Embassy Centre located at 125 West Jefferson Boulevard.

Upcoming holiday events around the city include a Reindeer Retreat at the Botanical Conservatory. The retreat will be held on Tuesday, December 23 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. This retreat will allow children to learn about the life-styles of reindeer. The Botanical Conservatory will also be hosting a "Winter Woods" Poinsettia show to provide the feeling of a wood during the holiday months.



Part of Fort Wayne tradition for over 40 years, the Santa Claus was lit once again on November 26.

photo courtesy / suzanne rogers

photo / jack rozman

In search of the perfect tree

kasey butcher
associate news editor

I have always loved Christmas trees. When I was little, decorating the tree was always my favorite part of my family's holiday preparations. I was one of those nerdy kids who thought that if you talked to a plant it would actually live longer. I'd sit by the tree and read aloud, dreading the day when we would have to take the tree down to the dump (this was before the Christmas tree recycling revolution).

I have a new baby sister, Marissa. She will be one month old today and December 25 will be her first Christmas. I want only the best for my young sibling, and that includes her first Christmas tree. That being stated, I embarked on a mission, a crusade you might say. I was determined to find the best, most lovely Christmas tree in the greater Fort Wayne area.

My search started at a little tree depot in the parking lot of Park West Shopping Center, "Park West Forest." From the outside this looked like an okay place to find a tree on a budget. All the trees were shorter than my five feet, eight inches, but they looked like they were of decent quality for their $27.95 price. As I walked through the lot, however, I noticed a little trick the lot played on consumers. All the good trees were on the outside. All anyone who wanted a "Charlie Brown" Christmas tree had to do was walk to the middle and find a nice selection-still $27.95. Park West Forest did have useful information on how to recycle one's Christmas tree, but otherwise the proprietors were not much help at all.

I next headed down to Lowes and Menards. They also had decent trees, but they were drastically overpriced for the quality of the product. The problem with trees from places like Lowe's and Menard's is that the trees are precut. This is not only a fire hazard, as the trees dry out faster, but the trees die faster as well. It would kind of put a damper on Christmas if the tree was already dead.

I want a tree that is cut specifically for me, or, better yet, that I cut myself. I want a tree that is tall, beautiful, and affordably priced. I want the people from whom I buy my tree to be helpful. Is that so much to ask?

"I think that all trees are beautiful...Even the 'Charlie Brown trees."

-Nick Lake
Evergreen Acres

Not at Evergreen Acres, home of the perfect Christmas tree. Evergreen Acres, located in New Haven, allows tree hunters to cut their own tree. The lovely trees are priced at $22 for Pines, including Scotch and White, and $45 for Firs. The Firs cost twice as much because they take twice as long to grow to maturity.

Evergreen Acres boasts 6,000 to 8,000 trees, although not all are ready for sale. The trees range in height from one foot (trees just planted this spring) to fifteen feet tall.

On top of great trees, Evergreen Acres has wonderful, friendly service. The owners, shake any dead branches or Praying Mantis eggs (they actually lay their eggs in live Pines) out of the tree. The tree is then netted and roped to the top of your car. One's fingers and throat can be warmed by a cup of Hot Chocolate and one will likely be sent off with instructions to "have a blessed holiday."

While I find the perfect trees at Evergreen Acres, Nick Lake, owner of Evergreen Acres, had his own idea of the perfect Christmas tree.

"Trees are a lot like people," Lake said. "They come in unusual shapes and unusual sizes. After you decorate the tree, it can be the most beautiful tree. So, in essence, I think that all trees are beautiful...Even the 'Charlie Brown' trees, after you adorn them with their glitter and glitz can be beautiful.'"

Holiday traditions shared around the world

It's not just Christmas--Chanukah, Kwanza preparations are also begining to celebrate upcoming holiday festivities.

thao ngo
writer

Every year millions of people around the world, celebrate the holiday season. Whether it's Christmas, Kwanza, or Chanukah, many people await the holiday season.

Jewish families celebrate Chanukah to mark the triumph over the Syrians and the rededication of the Jerusalem Temple. As the Festival of the Lights; Chanukah, lasts for eight days to remember the miracle of the oil that burned for 8 days rather than one. This holiday starts this year at sundown on December 19th lasting until December 27th. The word Chanukah means "rededication."

The Chanukah Menorah is called a Hanukiyah. The Menorah has nine candle holders. There are eight candles, one for each night of Chanukah. The ninth is called the "Shamash."

The Shamash is used to light the other eight candles. The candles are placed in the Hanukiyah from right to left. When the candles are lit, you light from left to right

Christmas is widely celebrated around the United States on December 25th. Although old records show the first Christmas celebration on January 6th. Christmas is celebrated and shared by many religions throughout the world. Christmas symbolizes the birth of Jesus in a manger in Bethlehem. There are many things that are a part of the Christmas holiday such as candy canes, Santa Claus, and Christmas pine trees. Things that are popular such as ornaments, fruit cakes, presents, and decorations come from variation of origins.

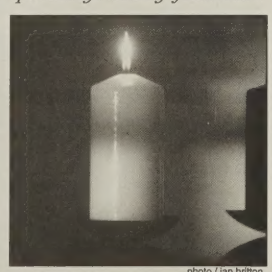


photo / ian britton

Holiday decorations such as trees, ornaments, and candles play an important part in several traditions.

photo / zach hetrick

Kwanzaa is an African American holiday which celebrates family, community, and culture as well. Kwanzaa starts on December 26th and ends on January 1st. It is partially focused on traditional African harvest festivals but mainly emphasizes the role of the family and community in the African-American culture. Kwanzaa has five fundamental principles of celebration: ingathering, reverence, commemoration, recommitment, and celebration.

Each day of Kwanzaa is dedicated to a particular principle(unity, self-determination, purpose, faith...) and on each of these days, a candle is lit on a seven-branched "Candelabrum." The celebration also includes the giving of gifts or a Karamu("African feast")

Kwanzaa is also a time to reaffirm the bonds between them, and to remember the lessons taught by those who have set themselves up as leaders/teachers/ancestors, to commit to the highest ideals of humanity to celebrate life.

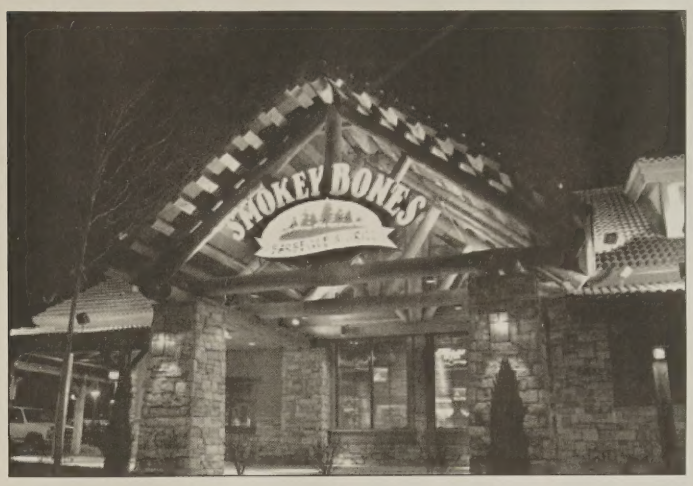
In addition to these key principles, the holiday is mainly focused on the pride of being an African American and to celebrate victories that have been overcome, and to reflect upon what is still needed to be done.

All these holidays are celebrated by the millions every year and each have their own unique origins and ideals.

(ə -măl'gə-māt') v.
to mix so as to make a unified whole; blend

the Spartana
AMALGAMATE

5c
December 19, 2003



Smokey Bones BBQ

tyler keena
writer

caitlin johnston
associate sports and views editor

josh zurawski
sports and views editor

The popularity of the attractions at Jefferson Pointe has once again increased with the addition of another restaurant, Smokey Bones BBQ. If you were unhappy about the lack of parking spaces at The Pointe before, you will be devastated to find that the situation is even worse.

We, two of the original food reviewers, Ms. Johnston, our newest addition, and our trusty photographer, Jack Rozman, arrived at Smokey Bones around seven o'clock on a Monday and waited about twenty-five minutes for a table. We can only imagine what a weekend night would be like. Be ready to wait for a table.

The atmosphere is different from any other restaurant in town - mountain lodge decor. To modernize the old-fashioned feel of a classic mountain lodge, TVs hang from the ceiling for viewing from all 360 degrees around the room.

Once we were seated, our hostess provided us with a speaker box with which we could tune into the audio streaming from one of the six different TV channels at the bar. Although they are quite nifty, the speaker boxes are rather impractical if you are seated at one of the taller, round tables near the bar.

Our drink orders were promptly taken and brought out to us. Had it not been for our inability to decide what we wanted to eat, our dinner orders would also have been expediently taken care of. However, we were bogged down by the variety of entrees and the confusing layout of the menu. After ordering some conventional mozzarella sticks to tide us over, we spent twenty minutes relaxing and deliberating over our dinner options.

INTERJECTION

As the only female in the group, and a chatty one at that, I will extend this warning to all you females in my audience: Don't bring a guy there and expect to carry on a pleasant conversation. The TVs in every direction picture either athletes or women - distraction is inevitable.

END OF INTERJECTION

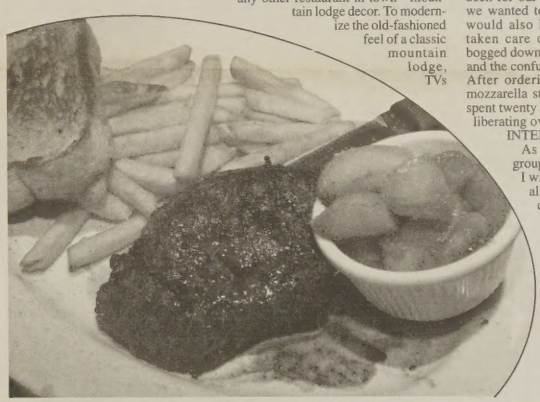
Our food arrived after a good 30 minute wait. The hand-pulled barbecue sandwich was excellent. For those of you that have a classic taste, the Buffalo Burger is the perfect fit. The more expensive ten ounce sirloin steak was moderate - definitely not worth the $10.99. The restaurant's specialty, BBQ baby-back ribs, were some of the best ribs our photographer has ever tasted. There was plenty of good food for the money.

Although the service was a little slow, Smokey Bones is dealing with more business than it will probably have once its "newness" has worn off.

Smokey Bones BBQ has a fun atmosphere and serves good food, but it currently has a problem with getting people in and out of the restaurant. By all means try out this new restaurant, but leave yourself at least a two hour block of time to wait and eat. We suggest waiting about two or three weeks before trying out this new restaurant if you want to avoid the rush. But if you want to hang out with friends and watch football over the holidays, Smokey Bones is the perfect place.

photos / jack rozman

From top to bottom: Sports and Views Editor Josh Zurawski (11) samples the steak at Smokey Bones Restaurant in Jefferson Pointe. Sandwiches such as the hamburger and chicken sandwich provide a nice meal at a reasonable price to those looking for a small twist on classic meals.



Smokey Bones

"The service was slow, but after all it is a new restaurant at Jefferson Pointe. Give it a month and it will be up to par."

"The atmosphere is fantastic. It's a fun Damon's-meets-Applebee's type of restaurant that's great for everybody."

"Smokey Bones' barbeque recipe does justice to its southern roots, but stick to their strengths - pass on the steak."

Dystopian 50s depicted

Julia Roberts, Kirsten Dunst star in new movie Mona Lisa Smile

kasey butcher
associate news editor

The 1950's are often viewed as an "Era of Good Feelings," so to speak. World War II had ended and the men were all home. Women were shuttled back to the kitchens to become June Cleaver types, and the nuclear family was prominent. A woman was allowed to go to college in spite of her expectations at home and was perfectly capable of balancing the two. Everyone was happy and fulfilled...or so pop-culture would lead one to believe.

Mona Lisa Smile takes a deeper look at the women of the 50's, in comparison to the famous painting. Mona Lisa seems happy. She's smiling, but why? Can that half smile truly be interpreted as happiness?

Mona Lisa Smile tells the story of Katherine Watson (Julia Roberts, *Confessions of a Dangerous Mind*), a Berkley educated free-spirit who takes a position as an art history teacher at the prestigious Wellesley College, hoping to make a difference in the lives of young women of the student body. She soon finds that the women in her classes are extremely intelligent but inhibited from achieving their dreams by a social obligation to marry. One student, Joan (Julia Stiles, *Carolina*), for example, has the credentials and the drive to become a Yale trained lawyer, but she is under pressure from her best friend, Betty (Kirsten Dunst, Levity), to start a family instead. Betty is an opinionated pain in Katherine's neck and the first of the girls to be married. Betty, however, winds up with unhappiness rather than the marital bliss she expected, and she causes her friends unhappiness as well. She breaks up the budding first love of Constance (Ginnifer Goodwin, *Ed*) and makes the already bad reputation of Giselle (Maggie Gyllenhaal, *Casa de los Babys*) worse. Just like the 50's, the end brings change. With Katherine's help, each of the girls discovers a means of being happy on her own terms.

I got to see an early preview of this movie while at the National Scholastic Press Association conference. While sitting in a theater surrounded by my peers, I noticed that the boys liked this movie just as much as the girls- it's not strictly a "chick flick." It is an inspiring movie that both sexes can enjoy.

I'm not going to say that the acting was brilliant, but it was good enough to bring the characters of the young women to life. Roberts is good, but she is upstaged by her co-stars. Gyllenhaal, Dunst and Stiles are excellent in their roles, but Goodwin was by far my favorite. Her portrayal of the wallflower Constance was adorable.

My favorite part of this movie, however, was the beautiful use of art to carry the theme. Katherine uses abstract art to teach the girls to think outside the norm. The rest of the movie takes on an artistic look, using deep, rich colors for costumes and sets. The movie also uses images of the 1950's from magazines, posters, and advertisements. The mix creates a strong visual depiction of a truly intriguing story.

Crowe's new film features history rather than action

greg karidas
business manager

It's Friday night, and I'm sitting on the couch in my boxers watching "Pop-up Videos." It's an exciting life compared to most. I'm eating my Fruity Pebbles when I hear the door bell ring. "A visitor," I think to myself. Still chewing the last bite of Fruity Pebbles, I walk to the door. Hmp, no one there. So I close the door and start to walk back to the couch. The door bell rings again. I open the door again, and to my surprise, a short rather large man stands in front of me in a robe and a pointy hat. He is odd, and for some reason, he seems to glow. A faint white light surrounds him. Then, with his short pudgy fingers, he snaps, and the light vanishes. By this time, as you can imagine, I'm amazed. He looks at me sternly with one eyebrow raised and says "You! What is your purpose?" Which really sounds like "Youth! What's your propose?" Anyway, I respond rather reluctantly because I have no clue what he wants to hear. My first inclination is to tell him I'm a fat lazy kid who no one wants to hang out with on a Friday night, but instead I tell him that I just don't know. He quickly responds with a single finger raised in the air next to his right cheek. "Ah!" he says. I say cool and let him in.

After letting him in, the funny man finally tells me his name. It is Chin Weber. He says he is here to show me my purpose. I am like, "Sweet, dude. I'll go get dressed." He responds, "Sweet like syrup." I nod and go to my room. I come back out in my hooded sweatshirt and blue jeans. He says, "We go now." We walk outside and go to my car. As we are driving, he keeps making funny noises. Funny to me at least. Noises like "hmpwahingingling." Weird, I tell you. As we continue driving, he says "Pull over," and I do. We walk to a tree and he says "Wow, how nice." And I think, "Sure, dude, it's a tree."

Is this getting boring? I think it is. Well, the point is that "Master and Commander," featuring Russel Crowe, is horrible. It is an incredibly long-winded, boring movie. I have a lot of respect for Crowe as an actor, but this movie does nothing to showcase the man's talent. The only thing that is showcased is the enormous lump between Crowe's eyes. In between the frequent naps I took during the movie, I couldn't stop staring at the man's lump. Lump, mole - call it whatever you want. I like lump.

"I have a lot of respect for Crowe as and actor, but this movie does nothing to showcase the man's talent."

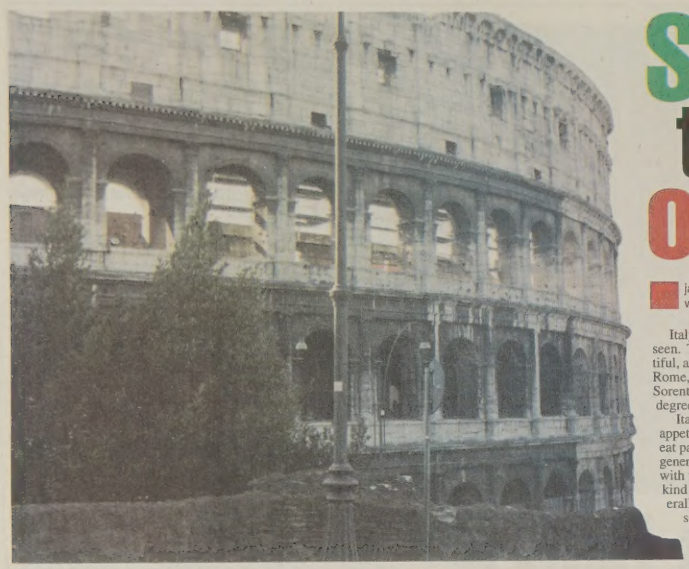
-Greg Karidas

The only positive I could find in the movie was the beginning action scene and the ending action scene. They were very well put together and very entertaining. The problem is the two hours between the beginning and end. The movie was more of a perspective on history than anything. History buffs and teachers would probably enjoy the movie and possibly even be interested in showing it. The crew even takes a trip to the Galapagos Islands. Thrilling. No, not really; actually, this is probably the most boring part. Well, maybe not - the most boring part might have been Russel Crowe playing the violin. Well, maybe not ... anyway you get the point. It was boring. The crew sees a bird that flies over the ship and they are astonished because they've never seen anything like it. The idiots used some ridiculous adjective to describe it and the whole darn time I'm sitting in my seat screaming "It's a freakin' seagull!"

I guess I liked the end of the movie, you know the part where it is completely over. Yes, that part. That part was by far my favorite part. The best way to sum the movie up as a whole is to say what I heard from another person watching it. He stood up and said, "Well, shoot, I just spent two and a half hours of my life watching this crap. Why don't you just poke my eyes out with sticks." I agree. "Master and Commander" is awful for the average person who is looking for a good action movie. It's good if you like boring historical movies, though. If that's your thing, then go check it out.

the Spartana
ADVANTAGEOUS

(ad van-taj s)
adj. affording benefit or gain; useful



Sojourn to the boot of Europe

jared baker
writer

Italy is as close to paradise as I have ever seen. The food is delicious, the sights are beautiful, and the people are nice. I stayed mostly in Rome, but I also visited Naples, Pompeii, and Sorento. The weather was from sixty to eighty degrees.

Italian food is some of the best and most appetizing cuisine in the world. Italians mainly eat pasta, pizza, and fresh seafood. The pasta, generally having a light marinara sauce, is filled with flavor. The pizza, very different from the kind that we have in the United States, is generally a thin crust pizza cooked in a wooden stove with marinara sauce and an assortment of toppings. Finally, the seafood, taken fresh from the Mediterranean Sea, is rich with flavor. I tried clams, crab, squid, and octopus.

The sight-seeing in Italy is world-renowned. Everything is ancient - many buildings aging from the B.C. era. The architecture's predominant feature is its enormity. The fact that the Roman people could construct buildings such as the Colosseum, and the Roman Forum, is simply phenomenal.

The Colosseum, in the ancient world, stood 160 feet high and was the largest structure of its type, with four stories of windows, arches, and columns. During its use, it could hold 50,000 spectators, who entered with numbered tickets through 76 of the entrances on the ground level. Upon entering the Colosseum, patrons climbed sloped ramps up to their seats, which were assigned according to gender and social class. The women and the poor stood or sat on wooden benches in the fourth tier. Depending on the weather, an enormous awning, or dome covering, was stretched over the top to prevent the ailing weather from affecting the spectator. A wooden floor was used to cover the subterranean chambers where the gladiators as well as animals were kept prior to performance.

During its first ten years of existence, the stadium was filled with water and used for mock naval battles. Over time, Roman engineers found this was damaging to the foundations as well as to the flooring. Entertainment would last all day in the Colosseum, beginning with comedic contests and exotic animal showings in the morning, and then moving on to professional gladiator events in the afternoon. In the majority of the contests, death played an important role. Professional gladiators, primarily condemned criminals, prisoners or war, and slaves, fought either animals or each other, generally until death. Their weapons might have included nets, swords, tridents, spears, or firebrands. Occasionally, free Romans and women would enter the fight for a few brief moments of glory. Contrary to common belief, there is no documentation to back up the story of Christians being fed to the lions.

The Forum (a Latin word meaning open space or market place), was the administrative and corporate heart of Rome. Generally, this word referred to the open space in any Roman town where business, judicial, civic, or religious activities were conducted. A typical forum might have been surrounded by temples, shops, and basilicas (large, covered structures used for various meetings). In Rome, there were several forums. The most famous, the Roman Forum, was designed by the architect Vitruvius who felt the proportions needed to be 3:2 (length to width). For centuries, the Roman Forum was the site of the city's most important public buildings, including the Arch of Septimius Severus, built in A.D. 203 and the Rostra or public speaking platforms. The reliefs on the triple arch represented many of Rome's victories over oriental tribes and the Rostra was decorated with rows of warships captured during battles. The Roman Forum, with its beautiful statues and architecture, became the spectacular showcase of the Empire.

Eventually, the Roman Forum proved too small for Rome's ever growing public activities. Consequently, the first Imperial Forum was built in 54 B.C. by Caesar. Most subsequent emperors, including Nerva, Vespasian, and Trajan, built their own forums. Trajan's forum, with an area of 25 acres, was the largest.

Reading about these abstractions in no way compares to actually viewing them. I was impressed with how the European people took to us while we were visiting their country. Contrary to that popular belief, they are very kind to visitors. This may be because 70% of the work force is in the service industry, which is greatly influenced by visitors. Even though we were of a different culture, the Italians tried to help us in any way that they could.

The biggest sport in Italy is soccer. The Romans take soccer literally, to the point of life and death. On days of a game, a person who wears wrong colors (i.e. blue and yellow, the colors of the rival team of Rome), has a high chance of being mugged and beaten up. The stadiums in Italy are massive, too. They generally hold around 200,000 people. So, as you can imagine, the city is nearly empty on game days.

The city is also very small. For instance, the room that I stayed in was maybe the size of my living room at my house. It was very tiny. However, it was considered a 'triple', or a three-bed room with a bathroom. The nicest thing about our room was the balcony and the view at night.

The cars in Italy are also small. Most of them are about half the size of most American cars. Since the streets are so small and windy, you really can't drive a regular 4 door American car.

The school days in Rome are unlike our school days. They're typically like a college schedule where you go to a couple classes every other day for two or three hours and then have the rest of the day off. Since TV is not very interesting and video games are not as big a thing as they are in America, kids would generally find hang out places and wreak their havoc there.

Finally, one thing that I learned from my visit to Italy was that happiness can be achieved without money. A staple of many Italian beliefs is to follow your roots. This means that if your father was a waiter, then you will be a waiter, and your son will also be a waiter. This is different from the American belief of working hard and making as much money as you can. I've found that working forty plus hours a week and making money is not what gives you happiness. Being with your family and friends is what gives you happiness.

Italy at a glance

Food

"The pizza, very different from the kind we have in the United States, is generally a thin crust pizza with marinara sauce. The seafood, taken fresh from the Mediterranean Sea, is rich with flavor. I tried clams, crab, squid, and octopus."

School

"The school days in Rome are unlike our school days. They are typically like a college schedule: Go to a couple classes every other day for two or three hours, and you have the rest of the day off."

Architecture

"In the ancient world, the Colosseum stood 160 feet high with four stories of windows, arches, and columns, and it was the largest structure of its type. It could hold 50,000 spectators, who entered with numbered tickets."

Through the eyes of *a tourist*

1: The Roman Forum is pictured in Northern Rome. 2: Another view of the Roman Forum is captured on film. 3: A statue stands outside the capital building in Rome. 4: The Spanish steps serve as a path to a Spanish basilica. 5: A topographical view of Naples, Italy is shown.

photos courtesy / jared baker

Above: The Pantheon is pictured. It was built to serve as a political building. Today it hosts Italian art shows. Left: Jared Baker (11) walks through an Italian city. Generally, the streets are filled with restaurants and various stores.

the SPARTANA

Homestead High School 4310 Homestead Rd Fort Wayne, IN 46814

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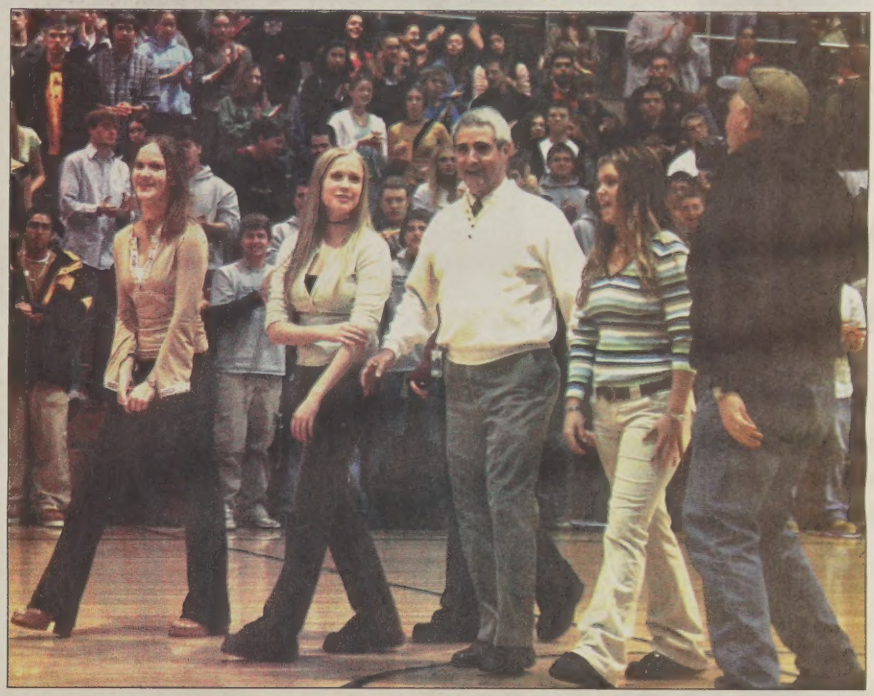
Entertaining the masses

Sports & Views B

Preparing for the post-season

Entertainment C

Traveling across England



30 years of dedication honored

Golden Apple award recognizes Ecology teacher, Doug Waldman, for his positive influence and service within the school system and Aboite community

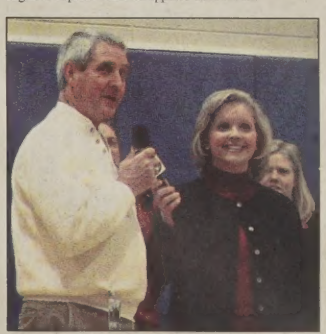
zafar sayed
news editor

Mr. Doug Waldman is originally from Ohio, where he attended Ohio State University and earned a bachelors degree in biology, before starting out as a park ranger in Colorado and wound up fighting fires. Waldman decided to pursue teaching and left Colorado to live in Emma, Indiana. There he began teaching juniors and seniors at Westview High School. When former Homestead teacher Mr. Wygant informed Waldman of an opening at Homestead High School he pursued the open position and has been teaching here for the last thirty years.

During the 1970's several science teachers began to explore different opportunities for students to learn about their particular subject matter. With his encouragement, he eventually coaxed SACS into purchasing the land that is currently the Environmental Center; this center is named in honor of Waldman. His first environmental trips began around this time including visits to West Virginia. Since then, students have been taken all over the United States to study the environment, from California and Washington, to Montana and Colorado. These excursions included nearly 65 students, as well as various teachers and chaperones. In fact, the popularity of these trips was so high that the number of students had to be cut down to a more manageable size.

Often these trips brought, not only fun and knowledge to students, but a little excitement as well. On one such journey, a van door was kept ajar while the students stopped to eat lunch. When someone went back to the vehicle to access camera equipment, a young bear was found in the back seat eating a bag of apples.

Through his 30 years of dedication Waldman has taught a multitude of students in and out of the classroom. His services in the environmental center and trips have both encouraged and touched a multitude of lives at Homestead.



Above: Amber Ludwig (11), Alli Matheis (11), and Michelle Patterson (11) walk with Doug Waldman as he accepts his Golden Apple Award.
Left: Twenty-one Alive's Jennifer Blomquist presents waldman with his award during the morning assembly.

Golden Apple Awards

associate news editor
associate news editor

On Wednesday, January 21, students were welcomed back from a four day weekend with a surprise assembly honoring one of their teachers. News Channel 21 presented Ecology teacher Doug Waldman with the prestigious Golden Apple Award.

After reviewing a multitude of applications, the Golden Apple Apple Award is given by News Channel 21 to nine area teachers per year, one for each month of the school year. The award recognizes teachers who touch the lives of their students. They are also recognized for going above and beyond their job description. To nominate a teacher, students can go to www.wpta.com where an essay can be submitted describing why the teacher deserves such an honor.

Waldman was nominated for the award by students Alli Matheis (11), Jacqueline Jones (11), Amber Ludwig (11), and Michelle Patterson (11).

Along with the award, Waldman received an ITT Tech sweatshirt, desk clock, and portfolio, a plaque, certificate, $500 savings bond, a one year supply of oil changes, and a lunch of Lee's Famous Recipe chicken for himself and his fifth period class.

The award was a way for students and the community to thank Waldman for his hard work and dedication, not only in the school but in the environmental center as well. Waldman, however, thanked the students right back.

"Thanks to all the students who have worked so hard throughout the years to allow us to do things in the environmental center and to travel," Waldman said in his acceptance speech. "This is a great school, one of the best in the state. It's because of you people and I thank you."

School district continues investigating freshman academies

Teachers and administrators continue to explore different aspects of freshman academies while visiting Indianapolis area schools.

Woodside Middle School is one of the possibilities for a Freshman Academy

zafar sayed
news editor

Many demographic aspects of Homestead High School have recently been under study by the administration and faculty. As part of a "Smaller Learning Communities" strategy plan, a $50,000 state grant was given to Southwest Allen County Schools for the 2002-2003 academic year. The grant is currently being used to research and explore the effects of overcrowding in the academic environment. Research will also be used to formulate potential options to alleviate the problem. Committees of faculty and students alike have been meeting as of late, to determine the efficacy of a Freshman Academy in particular. A presentation made to the school board on January 20th urged that further research be conducted on the matter for the 2005-2006 school year as well. The adjacent Woodside Middle School building serves as a possible source for a future academy. A group of several teachers and administrators visited similar freshman facilities in the Indianapolis area, in order to gather more information on the viability of such an option. No final decisions have been made however, concerning the need for a school composed entirely of 9th graders in this area.

the Spartana
PITHY
(pith´e) adj. concisely meaningful

Spartan Briefs

Student Award

Jay Coplen (12) has been named the National Youth for Christ's 2004 Male Student Leader of the Year. Coplen will be given an award for his achievement at the National Youth for Christ Convention in Denver Colorado. This award is given to student leaders across the country who display a commitment and desire to serve others. This is the first time a Homestead student has received this award.

Anthis Career Center

Scheduling for Anthis Career Center will be starting at the end of January. If students are interested in one of the career and technical education programs offered by Anthis for next year, they should see Amy Hamilton or their individual counselors in Student Services. A representative from Anthis Career Center will be visiting Homestead in early February in order to talk to interested students. More information regarding this visit will be put on the announcements.

Honor Roll Breakfast

Students who were on the honor roll during the second semester of last year and are currently on honor roll will be recognized at the honor roll breakfast. Names of those on honor roll will be posted on the guidance window on February 2. If students names are not on the list even though they are eligible, they need to see Mrs. Fitt in Student Services immediately. The breakfast will begin at 6:50 and will be on February 18 for Juniors and Seniors and take place on February 24 for Freshmen and Sophomores. If school is delayed or canceled on the above dates, the breakfast will be the held the following school day.

ISTEP Retakes

ISTEP+ retests have been scheduled for March 9, 10, and 11. Juniors and Seniors who did not pass their previous exams will retake the portions not passed. Sophomores who came to Indiana after the tests in fall may retest at this time. There are no make up dates for this test, and it is important that students who need to test be present on the testing days. Students who arrive tardy at school on the testing days may not be able to retest if the testing has already begun.

Future Careers

The Business Department has charted four career tracks that will help students choose courses in preparation for college or a career after high school. The four tracks are Business Administration, Marketing, Accounting/Finance, and Information Technology. Students are encouraged to pick courses based on the career tracks. Doing so will allow students to make informed career choices and they prepare themselves for college or a job.

Student Services

In February counselors will begin working with students in order to facilitate course selection for the 2004 and 2005 school year. Students will be meeting with their counselors in small groups during the month of February in order to help students make informed decisions about their schedules.

Pennies for Patients

Student Government will be having the Pennies for Patients fundraiser from February 2 - 26. Money will be collected in all 5th period classes during school to benefit the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. A main part of the fundraiser will be the seniors versus teachers basket ball games. The two sides will be on court starting at 7:30 p.m. on February 17. Admission will be $ 4.00.

Media Center

The Integrated Media Center of IMC had recently expanded its home page with new resources for students and teachers to use. New features include links on the topics of the Modern Language Association (MLA) guidelines for citing works, Copyright guidelines, guidelines for paraphrasing without plagiarizing and other miscellaneous information.

College Fair

The annual College Fair will be held on March 17 from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the cafeteria. Approximately 80 to 90 colleges will be represented at this event. The college fair gives students as well as parents the opportunity to ask questions with the representatives, and pick up other miscellaneous information regarding specific colleges. All students and parents are welcome to attend the session, but it is especially informative for juniors.

Calendar

2.16 Presidents Day (Make-up day) 2.20 Registration deadline for practice SAT. 3.03 Spring Scenes performed. 3.10 FAFSA due to central processor. 3.16 Winter Athletic Awards. 3.26 MORP Dance.

Student organization reaches out

Students Against Destructive Desicions plans to send following members to State Youth Summit:

photo / zach helrick

Julie Kaste (10)
Kelly Harman (10)
Whitney Johnson (10)
Jillian Howell (12)
Cortney Wallace (12)
Rachel Johnson (12)

Left: SADD board members Rachel Johnson (12), Courtney Wallace (12), and Jilian Howell (12) speak during a taping of video announcements.

Dancing the Night Away . . .

Twenty-four hour Marathon raises funds for athletes

rohith iyer
associate copy editor

The 22nd Annual Dance Marathon and three on three basketball tournament sponsored by Homestead Athletic Boosters will be held on Friday February 27.

The marathon will begin at 8 p.m. on February 27, and will go on until 8 p.m. on February 28. Dance partners wishing to participate are required to raise a minimum of $300. Cash prizes will be awarded to couples collecting the most money. $400 will be awarded to the first place couple, $300 to the second, and $200 to the third. Specials throughout the marathon will include line dancing, yoga, hip hop instruction, and other dancing activities.

The 2003 marathon was a success, with over sixty couples participating. Nearly $28,000 was raised by the participants last year. This year, over ninety couples have signed up to participate in the marathon, and many hope for record breaking funds.

The Midnight Madness three on three basketball tournament will be held in conjunction with the dance marathon. The event will begin at 8 p.m. The championship game between the winning student team and a team made up of coaches and staff will be held at midnight. The basketball team collecting the most money will be awarded $200.

An all school dance will also be held on February 27 from 8:30 p.m... until 11:00 p.m. A $5 admission fee will be charged at the door, and this can be put toward a couple's final total. Students who are not participating in the marathon can chose a couple whose total they would like to contribute to.

During the marathon, there will be prizes given away, which will be donated by different business establishments for the dancers. In addition, many area restaurants will donate food for participants.

Furthermore, Stellhorn Photo will be taking a picture of each couple. They will be providing 4x6 photos of the marathon, and students and their parents can purchase these photos if they chose to. Photos will be sold toward the end of the marathon.

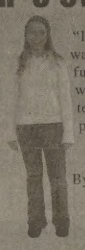
"Dance Marathon, what can I say, I love to dance," participant David Stehlik (11) said. "This gives me the chance to hang around with some friends and do what I love 24 hours straight. The only way to not have fun is to not participate. And as a side note, the participants are pretty much setting the Athletic Booster Clubs budget for the year with the money the marathon dancers and the three on three basketball players raise."

Continuing with efforts to raise funds, the Homestead Athletic Booster Club hopes to raise over $30,000 in this year's Dance Marathon.

Thoughts on last year's event . . .

"It was fantastic, and I think we [the participants] all enjoyed ourselves. Although I was only there for 12 hours, I still feel like I lived the Dance Marathon experience."

Jesse Burroughs (12)



"I think it was a lot of fun, but it was a very tedious experience."

Courtney Byers (12)

Snowcoming week brings winter time cheer to students

suhasani bhargava
associate entertainment editor

Fulfilling its purpose of enriching the student body and faculty with school spirit during the winter season, the annual Snowcoming week was held during the week of February 2, 2004. Organized by members of Student Government, Snowcoming week featured "dress up" days, the Snowcoming dance, and a variety of other school-unifying activities.

Mirroring Homecoming week from the fall season, Snowcoming week serves as a fundraiser for managing prom expenses. Similar to Homecoming week, Snowcoming week entails school spirit activities. The week ends with a basketball game on Friday, followed by a dance. Funds raised from Snowcoming week are added to the total raised by the junior class--this total is used to budget expenses for Prom, which is planned by student government members of the junior class.

"It is almost identical to homecoming week with a few variations in the "dress up" days," junior class president Neel Patel (11) said.

Headed by Patel, the Snowcoming committee commenced planning for Snowcoming week after winter break. Consisting of all junior class officers and representatives, the committee worked toward planning "dress up" days and organizing the dance.

Snowcoming week began with "pajama day" on Monday. Pajamas day allowed students to arrive at school dressed in comfort attire including pajamas and slippers. Although Tuesday was scheduled as "twin day," students were unable to participated because of a snow cancellation.

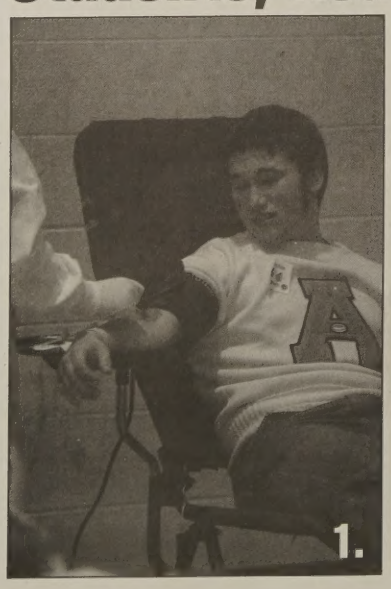
On Wednesday, students and faculty alike participated in college day. This day provided many students with the opportunity to wear sweatshirts and T-shirts sporting favorite colleges and universities. Thursday was "solid color" day and the last day of the week was traditionally the "blue and gold" day.

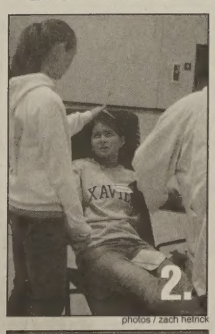
During Snowcoming week, the traditional junior/senior rivalry escalated to its peak as juniors and seniors prepared for the Dirty Ducker's Dodgeball game. The Dirty Ducker's dodgeball game was scheduled to be held on Tuesday, February 3 in the gymnasium; all junior and senior girls were eligible for participation. Although the boys were not allowed to play, many were asked to serve as cheerleaders and coaches. The Dirty Ducker's game was scheduled to be held for the second consecutive year; it acted as a replacement for Powderpuff, which had been canceled since the 2001-2002 school year. Because of the snow day on Tuesday, the Dirty Ducker's dodgeball game was postponed to be held on a later date.

"I think it was because powderpuff was canceled for some reasons and that used to be one of the biggest money makers," Patel said. "In place of it there needed to be another event so the idea of a Snowcoming week originated."

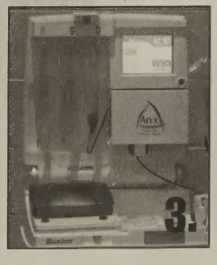
The festivities of Snowcoming week drew to an end Friday night with a girls basketball game against Leo high school. Friday night's game was followed by a dance in the gymnasium, open to all students for a charge of five dollars.

Students, Red Cross team up





photos / zach helrick



More than 70 Spartans volunteered to donate blood at the annual blood drive on January 22. The blood drive was organized by Shane Connolly (11) and Chris Miller (10) with the help of the Red Cross. With the participation of students and teachers ,Homestead was once again able to meet its quota for the day.

1. Brian Quigley (12) participates in the Double Red program, which involves removing red blood cells and the liquid plasma from the donors circulation.

2. Laura Beck (12) comforts. Meghan Hoffmann (12) as she gives blood.

3. A new filtering machine that can separate red blood cells from white blood cells is shown. The plasma is returned to the donor, and the machine is twice as effective as previous methods of removal.

Variety Show displays student talent

tyler keena
writer

The drama department's annual Variety Show took place on Wednesday, February 4 at 7:00 p.m. in the Homestead auditorium.

The Variety Show featured many different types of acts, including rock bands, singing, and dancing. The emcees provided the humor for the night.

The show is held yearly as a fundraiser for the Spring Musical.

"It's a drama fundraiser, but it's primarily for the musical," director Ed Koczergo said.

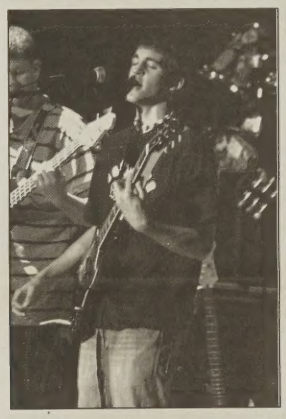
The show, which lasted about two hours, included 16 acts, several acts, and videos presented by the emcees. Transitional dancing was also provided twice throughout the show by David Stehlik and Victor Kee.

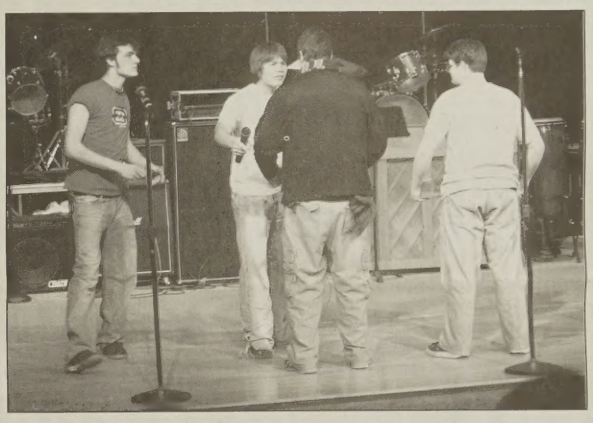
The acts that made it into the show were chosen in different ways. Each act that wanted to be a part of the show had to fill out a form before winter break which detailed what they want to do for the show. After the holidays, the rock bands had to turn in an audition CD or demo. On January 26, all the other acts had auditions, and the judges for the show picked the acts that entertained during the show.

The judges, who chose which acts had the opportunity to perform on February 4, were Jan Venderly, Elizabeth Graves, and Mark Hannon.

However, the performances were not the only thing that provided the entertainment for the audience. One of the crowd favorites of this year's variety shows, as well as those in past years, was the comedy and humor of the show's emcees. This year, there was a total of four emcees, and they also had some assistance from another student. This year's emcees were Tim Tolentino (12), Tom Stoffel (12), Brett Hunter (12), and Dave Frebel (12). Jesse Burroughs (12) assisted the emcees.

"This years variety show was really well-performed," Daniel Lambert (11) said. "Most of the music was interesting, the dancing was good, and I thought that the emcees and their videos were hilarious."





photos/ zach hetrick

Top Inset: Hillary McBride (10) sings "The Voice Within." Top: Jesse Burroughs (12) and Sam Adams (12) sing a cover of Stevie Wonder's "With the Grafenburgs." Bottom Left: Chris Miller (10), lead singer of Sixth Stone Standing, performs "All Along the Watchtower" by Jimi Hendrix. Bottom Middle: Emcees Jesse Burroughs (12), Tim Tolentino (12), Tom Stoffel (12), and Brett Hunter (12) perform a parody skit from the movie "Old School" during the beginning of the show. Bottom Right: Carissa Greer (12) poses during her belly dancing routine.

Audience "goes crazy" for the winter play

caitlin johnston
associate sports editor

The theater department's Winter Play, "Every 17 Minutes the Crowd Goes Crazy" was a change of pace from previous winter productions. It incorporated offbeat humor and soulful live music into a dark storyline.

The play showcased veteran actors and newcomers alike. The cast of fourteen featured eight "brothers and sisters," whose parents had abandoned them in search of a race track where horses raced every 17 minutes, hence the title. The children were left to fend for themselves, and the stage depicted a filthy house, cluttered with empty pizza boxed and fast food wrappers.

"The dirty set was a way to show the lack of order in the household," stage manager Allie Nagel (11) said. "It showed the breakdown of the family unit after the parents took off."

Principal actors included Jocelyn Gauthier (11) as Maureen, the oldest sister with a rebellious nature. Maureen was the confidante and protectorate of the youngest child, Ulie, played by Seth Dagger (10), who was desperately hopeful that the children's parents would come back.

"The part of Ulie symbolized the fact that young people are often the first to realize problems, especially in family situations, whether the other members know it or not," Nagel said.

These roles were supplemented by six other siblings, two of which were played by newcomers Jon Gigler (11) and Meg Warner (9).

"Putting this play together was extremely challenging for everyone, not just the new people," Gauthier said. "It was very difficult to become the characters in such a dark play, but everyone worked well together; it was an interesting and fun experience."

Director Ed Koczergo worked with the cast for three weeks, and he decided to let the cast bring their own clothes as costumes in order to show the contemporary nature of the theme.

"This play is different from previous winter shows in the fact that its tone is much more serious," Koczergo said. "The theme is centered around our reactions when face with difficult times and difficult decisions."

With such dark under tones in the plot, comic relief was absolutely necessary if the play was to stay consistent with past winter productions.

"There was a lot of black humor in the play, as well as some seriously absurd material," Gauthier said. "It was kind of hard to absorb all at once; it was funny, but sad at the same time."

Another unique aspect of the play was the showcase of live music, performed by 12 'n 2, a popular student band. The band played a total of nine original songs, three different ones each night.

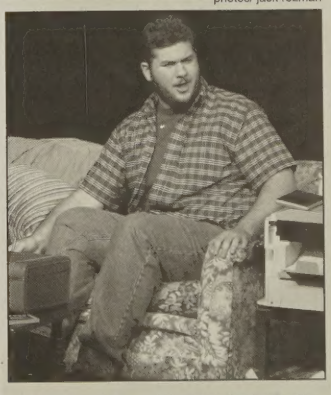
"The live music was a way of creating the party atmosphere, since the entire play is centered around a party that some of the siblings are trying to throw," Nagel said.

Fans of the band came to hear the music, and audiences experienced twisted characters in a fanatical plot that took an atypical amount of concentration to follow.

"To enjoy this play," said Gauthier, "You must be willing to think outside the box and absorb yourself in the theme."

Whether or not audiences expected such a unique play, many were left pondering the unanswered questions that the cast posed. Were the parents naughty in the time of Oprah-speak? Or was it the children who were naughty as can be? Who was it that caused this great transfiguring? Or was it all a virtual reality?

photos/ jack rozman



Top: Seth Dagger (10) comforts Jocelyn Gauthier (11). Above: Jon Gigler (11) talks about a party. Right: Emma Farnsworth (9) takes sinkers out of her hair as Jocelyn Gauthier (11) sits by her side.

the Spartana
INTEGRATE

(ĭn´tĭ-grāt´) v. To join with something else; unite

Marion County jurors decide fate of area murderer

Ronrico Hatch, the accused shooter in the August 2002 murder of local teenager Cheri Sue Hartman, could face the death penalty

manasee atre
copy editor

A judge recently ruled that jurors may still consider the death penalty in the case against 23-year-old Ronrico Hatch, the accused shooter in the August 2002 murder of teenager Cheri Sue Hartman. Hartman was beaten, stripped, and shot in the mouth.

In May, Hatch's lawyers, Stanley Campbell and Anthony Churchward, asked the court to dismiss the death penalty option in the case. They said that the death penalty is cruel and unusual punishment and that it violates some of Hatch's constitutional rights. However, in late January, Allen County Superior Judge John Surbeck Jr. disagreed, stating that if the jury convicts Hatch, the death penalty may be used if the jurors decide upon it.

In addition, in early January, Surbeck also ruled that the prosecutors in the Cheri Sue Hartman case will be allowed to cite Hatch's October 2003 Whitley County murder conviction during the trial as a reason to support the death penalty. In July 2002, Hatch shot and killed James Piatt in Whitley County, and about six weeks later, Piatt's body was found in a cornfield in Columbia City.

Prosecutors have been lobbying since mid-November to use Hatch's Whitley County murder charge as reason to support the death penalty in the Hartman case. Committing a separate and unrelated murder is a situation under which prosecutors can seek the death penalty in a case. However, Hatch's lawyers initially argued that the prosecutors' request to include Hatch's Whitley County murder charge in the case was not submitted quickly enough. Deputy Prosecutor Steve Godfrey countered by explaining that they could not have filed their request any sooner because of how recently Hatch was convicted of the Whitley County murder.

Students at Homestead have different feelings on the possibility of the use of the death penalty in this case. Many believe that Hatch should face the death penalty for his role in Hartman's murder.

"I'm glad that the judge ruled that the jurors may still consider the death penalty," Katy Weeks (12) said. "I have many friends who are against the death penalty, but I am for it, especially in this case. Hatch committed an atrocious crime, and he deserves to pay for it with his life."

Hatch is one of five people (including Christopher Hovis, 23, Brett Marks, 23, Christine Johnston, 23, and Rheann Kelly, 20) who have been charged with Hartman's murder. Hovis, Marks, Johnston, and Kelly have already been tried and sentenced. Hovis was sentenced to 70 years in prison, Marks and Johnston pleaded guilty to various charges and agreed to testify against Hatch, and Kelly was sentenced to 75 years in prison.

The next step in the Hartman case is jury selection. Because of the extensive media attention this case has garnered, the jury members will be selected from Marion County. Court officials recently traveled to Marion County to survey the area where the jury members will be selected. Then, in mid-February, potential jurors will complete extensive questionnaires. The trial will officially begin on March 8 in Allen Superior Court with the jury selection, and it will last for several weeks.

phot illustration/ evan childers

Teacher and student reactions to the Ronrico Hatch Case

"I think the whole situation is messed up. If he (Hatch) killed her (Hartman) in this area shouldn't he have to stand trial in this area?"
-Ian McCormick (10)

"I think it's good that they moved the trial. Otherwise, the press coverage could taint the jury."
-Paola Montesino (11)

"I think that Ronrico Hatch should die. His previous criminal record should be available to the jury, and the death penalty is appropriate.
-History Teacher Jon Baker

Conjoined twins pass away

puja parikh
intern writer

April McCray, and her husband Rocky, are coping with a very sad tragedy. It's not the loss of a job, or worry about money, but the loss of two members in their family. On Tuesday, January 20, eighteen-year-old April McCray gave birth to conjoined girls Stephanie Nicole, and Rebecca Marie McCray at 12:21 p.m. Shortly after, at 8:09 p.m. on Saturday, January 24, the twins died.

"These girls brought people together in prayer all over this country," John Boyanowski, the twins' maternal grandfather, told The Journal Gazette. "They brought families closer together."

The babies were conjoined at the trunk, also known as the chest and abdomen. The girls shared many organs, but had two hearts. One heart had a defect called transposition of the great vessels. Because of this, the babies were having trouble breathing. Separation of the two was not possible, and the family requested that no aggressive measures, such as life support, should be taken.

"[The transposition of the great vessels is a] serious congenital cardiovascular anomaly where the oxygenated and unoxygenated blood mix together, and therefore vital oxygen is not delivered to other organs. It can be very deadly," surgeon Dr. Virendra Parikh said.

As of 5:30 p.m. January 24, the family was expecting to bring the girls home on the 26th. Even though the twins were in critical condition, Marsha Boyanowski, the grandmother, said that the twins had been responding well to feedings. But on Saturday, everything changed.

"They took a turn for the worse," John Boyanowski said.

The girls passed away later that day.

April and her husband, nineteen-year-old Rocky McCray, have known since August that their twin girls would be conjoined. Abortion was out of the question for April, who had a strong faith in God and a love for children.

"The first option was that April could terminate," Marsha said. "And April immediately said, 'That's not an option. What else can we do?' The answer was to try to carry to term. Her [April] choosing life, knowing that it's gonna be a hard road, should be an inspiration to those who consider [terminating] normal, healthy babies. I've told April several times she's one of the braves women I know. I can tell she doesn't always feel that way, but she is."

April wants to reach other teenage girls by telling the story about her conjoined twins.

"I want to, hopefully, help girls choose life instead of terminating just because they think they can't handle something," she said to "The John Walsh Show."

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Indiana University–Purdue University Fort Wayne

(pûr'vyoo') n. Range of vision, comprehension, or experience; outlook

the Spartana PURVIEW

5a

February 13, 2003

President George W. Bush's new "Guest Worker" Plan allows illegal immigrants to keep jobs, placing the unemployed American worker in:

Alien nation

kasey butcher
associate news editor

As President George W. Bush begins the final year of his term, his new "guest worker" plan is being met with an ambivalent mix of emotions. While many employers support the plan, many unemployed American workers feel alienated by their President. As 26,000 manufacturing jobs were lost last year, the unemployment rate reached an estimated 5.7 percent (about 8,774,000 workers) in December 2003. Many Americans feel that Bush should put the employment U.S. citizens first. According to a USA Today gallop poll, fifty-five percent of Americans do not approve Bush's plan.

cartoon / evan childers

Bush's plan calls for an increase in the number of Green Cards issued and will allow illegal immigrants to keep their jobs on temporary "guest worker" cards, renewable for three year time periods. Guest workers will also be allowed to travel home and back, bringing family with them if they can prove that they can support them. Workers can also apply for citizenship, but must not be given special treatment. About eight million illegal workers are expected to take advantage of the Guest Worker Plan.

Bush hopes that his plan will help stabilize the economy and the immigration system, giving jobs that Americans don't want to workers from other nations.

"If an American employer is offering a job that American citizens are not willing to take, we ought to welcome into our country a person who will fill that job," Bush said in a press conference on January 10. "It will help strengthen our economy, return order to our immigration system, and secure our homeland."

The plan met political opposition as well as opposition from the public. While the plan is expected to pass Congress, critics suspect that it may just be a ploy to win votes with the nations growing Hispanic community. Others fear that the plan puts cheap labor ahead of national security. Democrats, on the other hand, argue that the plan is not effective enough as workers' stay in the U.S. depends solely on the duration of their job unless they are granted permanent residency. They also fear that the influx of foreign workers would bring down the wages of American workers.

The most resounding fear, however, is that the Guest Worker Plan may act as a sanction for illegal immigration.

"Those that seek the American dream must follow American laws," House Majority Leader Tom DeLay (R-TX) told CNN. "I applaud the president for addressing this difficult and complex issue, but have heartfelt reservations about allowing illegal immigrants into a U.S. guest worker program that seems to reward illegal behavior."

There are those, however, who support the plan, saying that it will provide immigrants with more job security and improve the United States' relationship with Latin America. The plan may also improve border security and save lives as the instances of illegal immigration should decline under the plan.

Perhaps one of the biggest supporters of the plan is President Vicente Fox of Mexico. "What we want is the plan presented by President Bush," Fox said at the Summit of the Americas in January. "We hope the plan has a happy ending through the political process that must be followed in the United States."

As Bush's Guest Worker Plan awaits the vote in Congress, it is still up in the air whether or not it will become reality.

A heffer of a problem

Mad Cow disease hits the United States, causing consumer fear

kasey butcher
associate news editor

On December 23, 2003, officials announced that a cow carrying the lethal bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE), more commonly known as "Mad Cow" disease, was found in Washington state. BSE affects the central nervous system of adult cattle and can cause variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (vCJD) in humans. VCJD is a fatal degenerative brain disease that currently affects 153 people worldwide, one case being in the United States.

Cattle contract BSE by eating food containing a "Mad Cow" agent. It is believed that this agent is a mutated protein molecule known as a prion.

Fear over the disease grew, as the cow had been slaughtered on December 9 and the meat may have already entered the market. The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) issued a Class II recall on all the meat produced by the farm for the day, amounting to about 10,000 pounds of beef. The cow's herd was also quarantined. It may not be known, however, if all the infected meat was found as vCJD has a relatively long gestation period.

Quickly after the news was released, the market price for cattle dropped by over twenty cents per pound, according to Phillip G. Anderson, Executive Vice President of the Indiana Beef Cattle Association. Not only did the drop in domestic markets hurt farmers, but the loss of exports did damage as well. Exports make up about ten percent of the United States beef market. After December 23, Japan, South Korea, and Mexico backed off from buying U.S. beef.

Mad Cow was detected in Europe ten years ago, and 153 people have died since. Locally, officials are trying to learn from the mistakes of their foreign counterparts. Since the detection of BSE infected meat, extra safeguards have been put in place to both keep the disease from spreading to other cattle and to keep infected meat away from consumers.

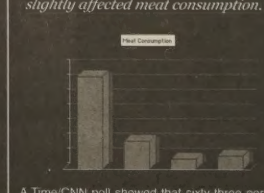
To begin, farmers are no longer allowed to feed cattle food with animal matter in it. Also, any non-ambulatory animals, those that cannot walk by themselves, are not allowed to be slaughtered for human consumption. The USDA has banned any meat from animals tested for BSE from entering the market until a test result comes back negative.

Even before extra protective measures were taken, United States consumers were at a low risk for contracting vCJD. The United States has a testing rate forty-seven times greater than the internationally recommended standard, with a 95 percent chance that they will find BSE based off the tests.

In a December 29 press briefing, the USDA defended its testing measures, even after the recall of meat from Washington.

"The clinical studies tell us there's virtually zero risk for BSE in the meat. And that is what gives us confidence that the U.S. supply of beef remains safe," the USDA said. "Nevertheless, out of an abundance of caution and an understanding of the public interest, and in the interest of protecting the public health, the decision was made to recall the meat from the BSE index animal."

A Time / CNN poll found that the detection of Mad Cow has only slightly affected meat consumption.



A Time/CNN poll showed that sixty-three percent of consumers are eating the same amount of red meat as they ever did. Nineteen percent have decreased their meat intake. Seven percent have stopped eating red meat altogether, while nine percent never ate red meat to begin with. The cost of beef originally dropped, but quickly bounced back.

Peace in the east

Peace talks between Pakistan and India commence Monday

christy landrigan
designer

The warring nations India and Pakistan have set February 16 though 18 aside to discuss peace for the first time in two and a half years. The talks are to continue in March.

Conflicts between the countries have amplified over the last 56 years, since each of the nations were established. Quarrels over the narrow strip of land at the foot of the Himalayan mountains, Kashmir, have been at the heart of the disagreements between the nations since Britain withdrew colonial rule in 1947. Violence has marked relations between the countries from their offset--two wars were fought over the land in only the first fifteen years after they were established. No agreement has yet been reached as to which country Kashmir belongs to. A third war fought in 1971 over land led to the creation of Bangladesh, and a fourth threatened to break out in 2002.

Pakistan and India have differing styles of government and contrasting religious views that have fueled further disagreements beyond the possession of Kashmir.

Due to concern that what remained of British oppression would transform to Hindu oppression of Muslims, a Muslim state, Pakistan, was created. Leaders of the new state then attempted to establish an egalitarian, or classless, society through the leadership of Muhammad Ali Jinnah in 1947. His death less than thirteen months after British rule was withdrawn left the budding country without guidance and thwarted plans for the new Pakistani government. As a result, Pakistan has endured interspersed military rule and weak governments while India has retained a democratic republic government.

Prime Minister of India Atal Bihari Vajpayee and Pakistan's President Pervez Musharraf made the agreement to hold peace talks on January 6 in Islambad, according to a source at ctv.com. The leaders acknowledged that the only way to end the violence was through discussion and delicate moves toward peace.

Kashmir locals hope for end to remaining violence

christy landrigan
designer

As leaders prepare to discuss steps toward peace on Monday, the number of Indian soldiers in the frequently disputed region of Kashmir have dwindled, but not for the typical reason. As a peremptory measure to aid progress of the talks, Indian president Atal Behari Vajpayee has withdrawn a large number of the troops.

The general atmosphere in the region is one of restrained yet relieved hope.

"There is a hope with people that ultimately the Kashmir issue will be addressed and there will be a peaceful solution," says professor Noor Ahmed Baba, head of the political science department at Srinagar's Kashmir University on reuters.com.

At night in Kashmir, people can be seen congregating in restaurants and shops or visiting friends for dinners, occasions previously not frequented because of the general fear of violence.

"Earlier, my parents used to get worried if I came home a little bit late. But now... they don't curse me," said Umar Nazir, a 24-year-old medical student quoted on reuters.com.

"The situation has changed a lot. I can meet my friends after my classes and sit in restaurants and chat until late."

This hope comes as a relief to many but serves as a warning sign to others.

"There is a bigger sense of optimism now," says a journalist from India on reuters.com. "But everyone is expecting so much. If it doesn't work out this time, it's going to be worse than ever, bloodier."

At the same time, there is a defeated attitude from those who have witnessed all of the previous attempts at peace.

"We have been living with this for the past 56 years," says Mohammed Amin Chalkoo, a 52-year-old businessman . "Nothing is going to happen. We have seen this too many times before."

This fear seems to be rationalized when the history of the region is considered. Militant and vigilante groups have been responsible for bloodshed that has marked and marred life in Kashmir. February 5, a day set aside to commemorate the struggle of the Kashmir people against Indian rule, was followed by the outbreak of gunfire the next day. Over the following twenty-four hours, thirty people were killed during fighting that occurred between guerrilla, vigilante, and militant groups against Indian soldiers and police. The number of wounded was unknown.

The talks also come amid the threat of terrorist group Jaish-e-Muhammad in Pakistan. The radical group was originally supported by Pakistan President Pervez Musharraf, but now seem bent on his assassination after he pledged to dissolve such groups when he supported Bush's stance on Islamic militant groups. Three attempts on his life were made in December alone. The group may be more dangerous now that they have no allies in government since they have no friends to keep.

A former commander of a similar group told TIME magazine, "The boys aren't listening to anyone. They're desperate. They don't accept that the days of jihad (holy war) are over."

The optimistic spirit in Kashmir continues amid the recent violence and threats in India and Pakistan.

"One or two years ago, people used to just talk of jihad," Kamran said, who fled from Srinagar in 1991, at the height of the rebellion against India's rule in its only Muslim-majority state, on reuters.com. "But now they just talk of peace and don't mention jihad."

the Spartana EXALT

(eg-zdlt) v. to glorify, praise, or honor

DECA team conquers district; 65 members qualify for state

Students participate in a business world atmosphere to solve problems, maximize profits

suhasini bhargava
associate entertainment editor

After finishing in second place at the district competition held on Saturday, January 10 at Huntington North High School, members of the Homestead chapter of the Distributive Educational Clubs of America (DECA) have commenced practice and preparation for the state tournament scheduled for March 7-9.

DECA is a business and marketing oriented competition between teams of people or individuals held at district, state and national levels. The competition is divided into several categories that students can choose from. There are different categories for groups and individual competition. Individual competitors can choose from categories like Apparels and Accessories Marketing, Business Service Marketing Series, Food Marketing Series, Full Service Restaurants Management, Marketing Management Series, Quick-serve restaurant management series, retail merchandising series and vehicles and petroleum marketing series.

> "I'd like to place in the top four [at state]. We have enough people doing well in these events to do well at state."
>
> **-DECA Advisor Brian McNeal**

David Windmiller (11) competed in the individual competition under the business services marketing category.

"I went to districts and I got third place out of 23 people and I made it to state," Windmiller said.

Team categories include e-commerce, finance and sports, travel and tourism and entertainment marketing. Students Rachel Trevino (11) and Ann McCullough (11) participated in the team competition under the hospitality category. For their project, Trevino and McCullough took written tests and received individual scores. Also, they participated in the role play event where they were asked to determine which types of services would be ideal for a hotel and resort in Texas. Trevino and McCullough had to work with demographics, and geographical location to present an ideal solution. Their team advanced to state with a fourth place finish at districts.

"Last year we got sixth or seventh and there were some really good people. At first we thought we didn't make it," Trevino said. "I was excited [to make it to state]."

Both individual and team scores are based upon a test score and another score from the judges. To receive a test score, students have to take a 100-question test in an hour. Then, the students are given a real-life situation where the knowledge of their category would be useful. Competitors are given 20 minutes to brainstorm a solution to their situation and present the solution to the judges. The total score is a combination of the test score and the situation score given by the judges.

A written event consists of writing a ten to thirty page paper regarding categories such as entrepreneurship or the international business plan event. The international business plan event focuses on selecting a product and creating a market for the product in a foreign country. While selecting a product, participants are encouraged to consider the following factors: the current business situation in the foreign country, the planning and execution of the product or service, and an economic, legal, and political analysis of the country. Students Jason Leung (11) and David Childers (11) participated in the written event; collectively, they wrote a 30 page essay about Seismic Acquisitions. The group proposed that electronic devices such as hydrophones should be exported to China.

"It was my first year in DECA, but I felt I learned a lot about the business world and how it works," Leung said.

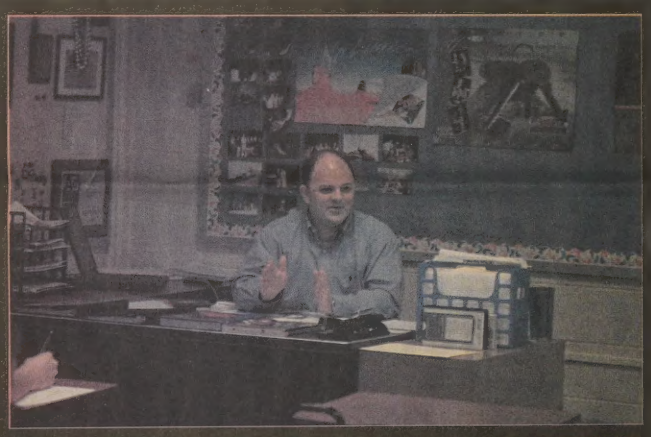
This year 96 students competed at the district level. Out of those 96 competitors, 65 placed high enough to qualify for the state level competition. The top seven participants in each event are able to advance to the state competition. Additionally, the top four participants in each event at state qualify for the national DECA competition.

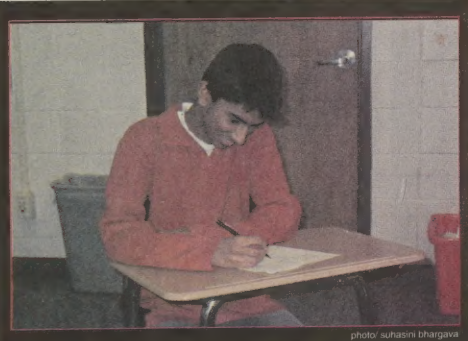
Last year, the DECA team placed in fifth place at the state competition and qualified sixteen students for the national competition. DECA advisor Brian McNeal hopes for similar results from this year's team.

"I'd like to place in the top four [at state]," McNeal said. "We have enough people doing well in these events to do well at state."

photo/ suhasini bhargava

DECA members Troy Bixler (12), Eric Brown (12), and Kyle Brown (12) plan for their presentation before competing at the district competition. K. Brown and E. Brown competed in the Financial Marketing category.





photo/ suhasini bhargava

Above: DECA Advisor Brian McNeal teaches a business class. Students from McNeal's business classes often participate in the DECA district competition. Although taking business classes is advantageous, it is not a requirement for competing in DECA. Left: DECA competitor Sanjeev Balamohan (11) works on a rough draft of his project. Balamohan competed in one of several written events. Students wrote ten to thirty page papers about international business and entrepreneurship. Last year, Balamohan had qualified for the national competition.

Indiana DECA Calendar of Events

***March 7-9:** State Career Development Conference*

***April 17:** Competition Camp at Carmel High School*

***May 1-4:** International Career Development Conference in Nashville, Tennessee*

DECA Accolades:

In the 2002-2003 school year, DECA placed fifth in the state. This year, the team will be participating at the state tournament from March 7-9.

Sample DECA Questions

1. Managers who conduct staff meetings often assign one of their employees to
A. take requests B. take messages
C. take minutes D. take questions

2. Netscape Navigator is an example of a Web
A. cookie B. bookmark
C. server D. browser

3. Estate planning requires a knowledge of all of the following except
A. wills B. trusts
C. taxes D. inflation

4. Which of the following types of evaluations measure employees according to the quantity of their production?
A. Objective B. Analytical
C. Subjective D. Divisional

Distributive Educational Clubs of America

number of state qualifiers per category

Individual Events:
Apparel and Accessories- 1
Business Services- 4
Food Marketing Series- 1
Full Service Marketing- 3
Marketing Management- 3
Quick Service- 1
Retail Marketing-4
Vehicle Marketing Services- 4

Team Events:
E:commerce Marketing- 3 teams
Financial Services- 3 teams
Hospitality Services- 3 teams
Sports Marketing- 3 teams
Travel, Tourism Marketing- 2 teams

Written Events:
Entrepreneurship Written- 3 teams
International Business Planning- 1 team
Advertising Campaign- 1 team
E: Participating Event- 4 individuals

the Spartana
SPORTS & VIEWS
B
February 13, 2004 Contact the Sports and Views editor at TheSpartana@hotmail.com

Hockey loses important game to Bruins

austin hetrick
intern writer

On the ice of McMillen Park, the Homestead hockey team has strived for perfection all year long. In a few short weeks, Homestead's season will come to an end, and all eighteen players hope it will close in a blaze of glory.

For now, the team is trying to concentrate on their remaining games before the finals, but the fruition of their labors throughout the year is too close not to look forward to the city playoffs and state finals.

Next Wednesday at 8:15, Homestead will play its final regular season game against the Carroll Chargers in McMillen Ice Arena. The team's record going into the game is eleven wins, six losses, and one tie.

"Our team is by far the most experienced in the division," head coach Robbie Starkey said. "Most players have performed well in travel and junior leagues...I've personally coached for 14 years," Starkey said.

Starkey has coached in the USA Hockey National League, and will coach the Indiana Allstate Team for the fourth year in a row.

Homestead's team formed around the solid core of seniors who compose nine of the eighteen members on the team. Rounding out the team are six juniors, one sophomore, and two freshmen.

When asked how this year's team is different from last year's, players gave mixed results. Senior and team captain Nick Knoblauch felt that the team was "better," while junior Nick Baker felt that the team was overall, "fairly good." Baker added that there was "quite a bit of talent on the team."

In the upcoming games, the Spartans will look to senior and leading scorer Eric Bloom (12) to continue performing well. He has racked up an impressive 16 goals this year. Bloom has been an important part of the offense all year long.

The Spartans were lucky to only lose two seniors last year, and this year's team contains a group of well-acquainted players whose experience with one another has helped their performance.

The major changes from last year to this are few, but the loss of star goalie John Ryan, who carried the team with a near-perfect season last year, was a major blow to the team. Senior Seth Lamb has stepped up to the task of starting goalie this year, and he has a respectable 84.1 percent save rate.

The Spartans will be participating in the "city-playoffs" throughout the weekend of the 21st and 22nd. The playoffs are single elimination, and Baker expressed his hope that the team could break their three year first-round curse and advance into the further rounds.

The state competition, held on the weekend of the 28th and 29th, will be a further test for the Spartans, who hope to perform well in both tournaments.

Looking back, each of the team members had a goal of some sort when he started this year. For some it was to improve, for others it was simply to do their best to motivate their teammates. But for each member of the team, the real goal lies at the state finals in Indianapolis.

Starkey himself sums up the team's hopes in three simple objectives: to "win the city tournament, the state, and win our third regular season championship for the fourth year in a row." All three goals remain possible, but the Spartans trail the Northrop Bruins by one win in the regular season.

As their season comes to an end, the team looks to go out on a high note with victories in their final regular season game and in the tournaments that they have orked so hard to reach.

Nick Baker (11) skates up the rink during the Spartans' victory against the Carroll Chargers. The Spartans are one game behind the Northrop Bruins in the league standings.

photo / jack rozman

All-around achievement

ashley butler
designer

The Lady Spartans Gymnastics team started the season with a bang after their January 8th win over Elmhurst.

"Our first meet went really well; it was the best that we've placed in the beginning of the year in three years." Vicki Toth (11) said.

The team celebrated their first victory of the season against Elmhurst. The Lady Spartan team had 96.9 points, while Elmhurst lagged behind with 75.5.

Shelley Toth (11) placed 1st in vault and 2nd all-around in the meet against Elmhurst, while Vicki Toth placed first in both the all-around and floor competitions.

After their first meet, the team faced a loss against Snider on January 15th.

Although the team lost to Snider, Shelley Toth ranked 1st in the all-around competition as well as in both the vault and balance beam divisions.

After Snider, the girls team won their next two meets against Warsaw and East Noble, with Shelley and Vicki Toth winning the all-around in both competitions, respectively.

The next meet for the team, however, ended in defeat. The Lady Spartans faced DeKalb on January 29th and lost by tenths of a point. Significant point earners were Shelley Toth, Vicki Toth, and Courtney Garton (11).

The team members made up for their DeKalb loss by defeating Wayne at Wayne High School. Shelley and Vicki Toth led the team with wins in all divisions with help from teammates Garton and Slane. The meet ended with a score of 96 to 69.45.

The team still has a number of meets to go before NHC and sectionals. Members of the team predict a victory at the sectional competition and advancement to regionals. This year, both the NHC and Sectional competiions will be held at Homestead.

"There are a few teams who have had big injuries this year, which helps our odds of making it past sectionals to regionals," V. Toth said.

Although the team hasn't had any coaching changes, their improved attitudes during practice have helped them to succeed during the season.

"This year we are really concentrating on trying to work harder during practice and to remain focused," V. Toth said.

Although the team has been keeping focus and achieving their goals, the team is suffering this year from the loss of four key seniors.

"The players that graduated really helped the team last year; they were almost always the top three scorers," V. Toth said.

Although top scorers graduated, players believe that the team is improving.

"Everyone keeps getting better and better every year," V. Toth said.

This year, the team consists of girls who get along well together.

"We all mesh really well this year, much better than we have in the past," V. Toth said.

Courtney Garton (11) poses toward the judges as she completes her floor exercise routine at the meet against East Noble. The team defeated their competitor with a score of 95.95 to 79.3. The Lady Spartans gymnastics team often places highly in the floor exercise, vault, and all-around competitions.

photo / zach hetrick photo illustration / joanna rogers and josh zurawski

Playing for pride

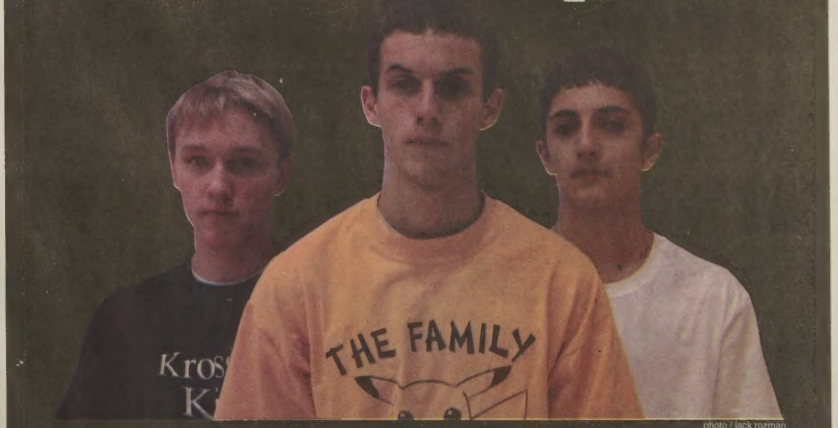


photo / jack rozman

Intramural players Shane Connolly (11), Don Ueber (11) of the Family, and Sam Jeihooni (10) of the Under Bosses. 16 teams compete for the league championship and bragging rights for one year. The regular season consists of seven games played after school in the auxiliary gym. Playoffs begin on February 25 and conclude with the Championship game on February 27 in the main gym at 2:50.

— See page 3b and 5b for more information in intramural basketball

the Spartan DISPORT

(dĭ - spôrt′) v. to occupy oneself with diversion or amusement

Spartan Briefs

— Komet's Hockey —

The Fort Wayne Komets of the United Hockey league are in second place in the Western Conference (30-13-4) and in second place overall, 3 points behind league leader Muskegon. The Komets went 1-2-1 in the past week, with a win against Port Huron (5-1) and losses to Muskegon (6-4), Flint (4-2), and Richmond in a shootout (3-2). Upcoming home games include: Friday, February 13th, at 8:00 against the rival Kalamazoo Wings, Sunday, February 15th at 5:05 against the Richmond Riverdogs, and Saturday, February 21st, at 7:35 against the Rockford Icehogs.

— Homestead Hockey —

The Homestead Spartan hockey club is in the midst of a slump. Going 1-3-1 in their last 5 games, the Spartans look to close out the season with 2 wins in the remaining 2 regular season games of the season. The Spartans played on Wednesday, February 12th, at 8:15 against New Haven. They will close out the regular season against Carroll on Wednesday February 18th, at 8:15. The City Playoffs begin on February 21st and run through February 25th. The Spartan hockey club will then head to Indianapolis for the State Championships, running from February 27th through the 29th.

— Purdue Basketball —

The Purdue men's basketball team is 15-7 at this point and 5-4 in the Big Ten. The Boilers have lost 3 of their last 4 Big Ten games including a 63-58 Indiana upset. The Boilers recently played on February 11, hosting Northwestern. The Boilers will then follow up that game with a rematch against the Indiana Hoosiers on Saturday, February 14th, at 4:30. They will then hit the road for the next three games: at Michigan State on the 17th of February, at Minnesota on the 21st of February, and at Wisconsin on the 29th of February.

— Indiana Basketball —

The Indiana Hoosiers are 11-9 overall this season and 5-4 in the Big Ten. The Hoosiers have lost three straight games, including a heartbreaking 84-82 double overtime loss to Iowa. The Hoosiers hit the road for Penn State and Purdue before returning home to host Minnesota and Ohio State on the 18th and 21st of February respectively.

— IPFW Basketball —

The IPFW Mastodons stand with a record of 3-19 for the season. After two straight wins against BGSU and Morehead St., the 'Dons lost 9 straight before landing another in the "W" column with a win against Tri-State. The 'Dons have since lost four straight. The 'Dons last two home games of the season are Tuesday, February 17th at 7 p.m. against Florida Gulf Coast and Monday March 1st at 7 p.m. against IUPUI. All games are held at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum.

— NFL Football —

After a dominating performance over Denver a few weeks back, the Colts slipped past the Kansas City Chiefs by a 38-31 count. The Colts then headed to Foxboro to play the New England Patriots in the AFC championship in which the Colts were downed 24-14. The Colts ended with a 14-5 record. The New England Patriots then went on to defeat the Carolina Panthers in a classic by the score of 32-29. The NFC also defeated the AFC in the Pro Bowl by the score of 55-52.

— Pacers Basketball —

The Indiana Pacers are off to a successful first half in the NBA. The Pacers are 39-14 overall this season and hold the best record in the league. The Pacers are 6 games up on rival Detroit and 11 games up on third place New Orleans. The Pacers are at home on the following dates; against the New Orleans Hornets on Tuesday, February 17, at 7:00 p.m., against the Utah Jazz on Sunday, February 22, at 3:30 p.m., and against the Golden State Warriors on Tuesday, February 24, at 7:00 p.m.

— NHL All-Star Game —

The NHL All-Star weekend was held this past weekend before 18,000 plus fans at the Xcel Energy Center in St. Paul, Minnesota. In the youngstars game the West prevailed 7-3. In the All-Star skills competition the East beat the West in a series of competitions, 13-6. In the All-Star game, however, it was an unlikely test of goalies as the game was more of a goalie showcase than an offensive one. The East won the All-Star game 6-4. Joe Sakic won the MVP of the All-star game with his hat-trick for the West.

— NASCAR —

The NASCAR Nextel Cup, Busch Grand National, and Craftsman Truck Series all get underway this weekend at the Daytona International Speedway in Daytona Beach, Florida. Beginning this Friday (February 13) the Craftsman Truck Series will get underway with the Florida Dodge Dealers 250 under the lights of Daytona. Saturday at noon the Busch series will run the Hershey's Kisses 300. To end the weekend, the Superbowl of racing or the Daytona 500 will take place. The race gets under way at noon. The Truck race can be seen at 8:00 p.m. on the speed channel while the other two races will be held at noon and can be seen on NBC. The Nextel Cup Series points set-up has changed. The amount of points will stay the same but the top ten drivers after the first 2 races of the season will be inducted into a playoff format.

Girls swimming heads to Indy

With an overall season record of 8-2-0 the girls prepare for state

jessica bird
writer

With some wins under their belts, and the same winning attitude, the Homestead girl's swim and dive team are continuing to drown the competition.

The first meet of the season was at Concordia Lutheran, where the Spartans won 112 to 72. The team then hosted a home meet against Bishop Luers and won 138 to 45. The girls went on to win the East Noble Invitational. The lady swimmers then traveled to Snider, falling short of their expectations, and losing 87-99. On December 13, Homestead hosted the Homestead Invitational, where the girls placed second, losing only to Yorktown (635) 613.5. Other teams the girls defeated at their home meet included Concordia Lutheran (325) and Delta (322.4). The 200 Medley Relay was won with a time of 1:53.6. The Medley Relay team consisted of swimmers Kelly Johnson (10), Maddison Hamil (12), Macy Zander (9), and Rachael Helman (12). The swimmers then added three straight wins to their record, defeating Bellmont (122 to 45), Northridge (104 to 82), and Columbia City (146 to 39). Although Homestead lost to Carmel (130 to 56), the girls went on to win their final three meets of the season against Carroll (138 to 48), Norwell (111 to 75), DeKalb (141 to 45).

"The season is going pretty good," Kelly Johnson said. "[We're] a lot stronger this year and the freshman have helped. The team has had a lot of personal bests."

This year's girls swim team is exceptional with nine 1st Team All-Conference winners. Jessica Skiba (9) led the Spartan swimmers in the 500 Yard Freestyle (5:19.04), helping raise her individual points for the meet to 40. Kelly Johnson (10) and Emily Ring (11) had tying scores of 37. Macy Zander (9) won the 100 Yard Backstroke (1:02.17), raising her overall score to 36. Rachael Helman (12) finished the day with 34 points. Maddison Hamil (12) and Stefanie Gilson (11) ended the day with 33 points. Two sophomores, Jessica Hennick, and Dani Johnson finished with matching scores of 32. Samantha Nolting (10) and Kelsie Edwards both received 1st Team All-Conference in diving.

"[After our conference meet], we started tapering, meaning our amount of training decreases," Emily Ring (11) said. "This helps us get ready for the big meets."

The ninth graders are stepping up and holding their own in competition.

"I think the freshman are keeping up well," Zanders said. "We have all improved a lot since the beginning of the year."

The team knows which other teams will be hard competition.

"In our conference, Snider is hard competition," Macy Zander said. "In the entire state, Carmel is our hardest team to beat."

Some teams think that an annual "freshman initiation" has to occur before success of a season. However, Spartans swimmers do not rely on this to keep a winning record.

New rules have been enforced involving freshman initiation or hazing, because of past events. In some sports teams, upperclassmen like to "welcome" or initiate incoming freshman to the sport by having them perform certain tasks. Most of these tasks are for the fun of it, but they also have a possibility of getting out of hand.

"[This year] we haven't done anything to the freshman," Johnson said, "But, [when I was a freshman] I liked initiation, it was fun."

The swimmers finished their season with a conference record of 5-0-0 and an overall season record of 8-2-0.

Above: Julie Krouse (11) swims the 400 yard freestyle in a home meet against DeKalb on January 22. Below: Kelly Veenstra (9) swims butterfly. The girls won the meet 141-45.

photos / zach hetrick

Wrestlers finish strong

kelly childs
writer

Homestead wrestlers finished off their regular season strong on January 13th when they triumphed over Elmhurst in their last meet. Elmhurst only had four wrestlers. So, they had to forfeit ten of their matches and Homestead won every other match they wrestled except one. The team was able to finish the season with a record of 5-6. The progressive meets leading up to state started with conference on January 17th.

In the New Haven Invitational on December 2, Homestead placed third out of eight teams. The team had five individual champions from the invitational, including Brian Wight (11) wrestling 103, Clinton Smith (11) in 135, Ryan Torres (12) at 171, Justin Allen (11) wrestling 189, and Richard Roelke (12) at 215. Homestead also had two other individual placements. Matt Witham (11) placed 3rd in the 160 weight class, and Ryan Wynn (12) placed 6th in the 152 weight class.

The team's meet against Bellmont on January 8th also brought about a feeling of success. While the team did not win the meet, they were very pleased with how well they wrestled. They won six out of the fourteen individual matches.

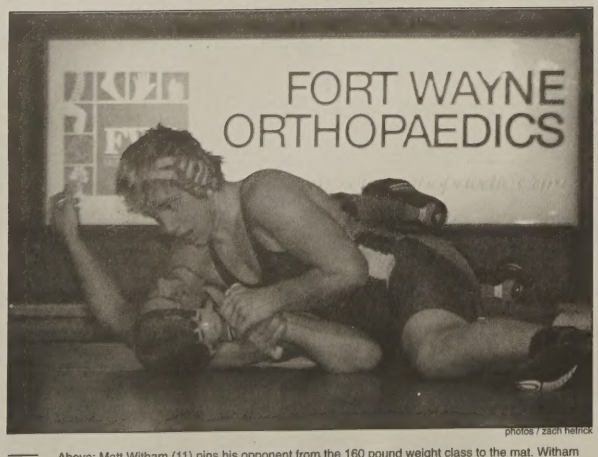
"Everyone was shocked by how well we did," Roelke said. "The team, our coaches, even the Bellmont coaches were impressed with how we wrestled."

While the team is young, it has four seniors to look to for leadership. Roelke, Michael Shock, Torres and Wynn have been wrestling together on the team all four years in high school and Roelke, Shock, and Torres even wrestled in middle school together. The four boys have not only helped the team with their success on the mat, but they have also helped through the practices. Roelke says he feels he helps motivate the team and lead them through practices.

Each practice, the team is supposed to "practice with a purpose." This phrase is what Coach Pursley reminds the team before they practice everyday. Pursley also tells the team to "go out fighting to win." Some wrestlers go out being more defensive and trying not to lose, but also trying not to win. Pursley reminds the wrestlers to fight for their win. This seemed to have worked because the team won two more conference dual meets than last year. They were also able to end their season with a win and head into conference strong.

At conference on January 17, Homestead placed fifth. Witham was able to place first and the team had four individual runner-ups: Allen, Roelke, Smith, and Torres. Sectionals was successful for them as well. The individuals who placed first were Allen, Roelke, Torres, and Witham. Smith placed second, Wight placed third, and Wynn placed fourth. Mikulecky and Jeffries both placed fifth, and Laird got fourth. To advance to regionals, wrestlers had to place in the top four of their weight class. So, Allen, Roelke, Smith, Torres, Wight, Witham, and Wynn all got to move on. Fortunately for Jeffries, the Snider heavyweight got hurt. So, Jeffries advanced to regionals as well.

Ending the season with a 5-6 record, winning fifth at conference, and entering regionals with eight individuals illustrate the hard work of the wrestlers.



photos / zach hetrick

Above: Matt Witham (11) pins his opponent from the 160 pound weight class to the mat. Witham helped Homestead obtain a fifth place conference finish with his first place ranking.

(dis' -pā'shən) n. An amusement; diversion

the Spartan DISSIPATION

3b

February 13, 2004

Anomalous athletes

Varsity Dance Team prepares to defend their state title, anticipates success at nationals.

sarah kennedy
writer

Lots of Homestead students have big plans for spring break this year. Florida, Mexico, Bahamas...and the Homestead Varsity Dance Team is no exception. The dance team will be going down to Florida this year for nationals over spring break. The trip is expected to be very fun, as well as challenging for the dancers.

"It was a good year to go, we try to go every other year," Coach Jennifer Bay said.

The dance team has been working very hard all season to prepare for the nationals. They have already competed in five competitions, including the competition that was hosted by Homestead (which was exhibition for the team) on January 31st. They won first place in lyrical and jazz divisions at Marion, first in lyrical at Munster, and first place in lyrical and jazz at Northrop and Lake Central.

"We've have a pretty good season so far this year; we've been practicing a lot, getting our teams together," Alex Kruse (10) said. "There are some other really good teams, but I'm confident that we'll still have a good year."

The team will have regional and state competitions, both in Indianapolis, which will be followed by nationals in Florida.

"[The team is doing] great," Bay said. "They've had good progression every week, and their scores and performances have improved also. They work very well as a team."

Recent practices have focused on cleaning the dances, making small adjustments, and listening to the judges' comments every week to make changes. This year's team is slightly smaller than the past teams have been. So, Mrs. Bay thinks it is easier to get everyone in unison. The team members work well together, have the same flexibility level, and are very strong in the technical area of dancing. Dancing at the school's pep rallies is also another way that the team gets practice dancing in front of crowds.

photo / jack rozman

Dance team members Tiffany Biehl (12) and Leah Newcomb (11) perform their jazz routine during halftime at the February 7th Snowcoming girls basketball game.

"They've had good progression every week, and their scores and performances have improved also."
- Coach Jennifer Bay

The team also consists of several soloist dancers that perform at competitions.

"The solos are going pretty well," Adrienne Ahee (11) said. "The competition is a lot tougher this year, but I have improved since last year."

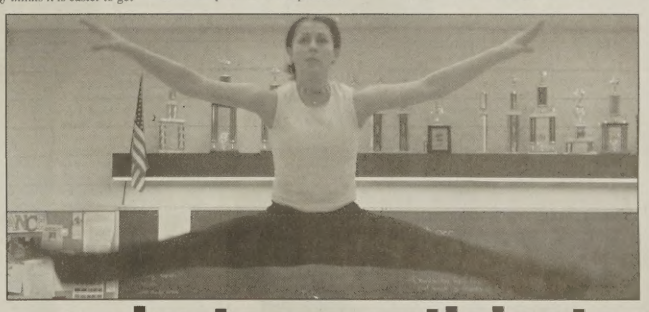
Some of the dancers have been working very hard for years to get to where they are now.

"I've been dancing since I was six," Katie Johnson (11) said. "I started dancing at studios, taking lessons."

Solo competition can be a stressful experience for the dancers. It is a very different situation that the team competition. The Homestead Varsity Dance team has four soloist dancers: Kelly Childs, Kruse, Johnson and Ahee.

"When you're with a team you can't do anything about the other dancers, you only worry about yourself," Ahee said.

The team is working hard to represent the school in Florida this year, and so far has done very well in competitions. If things go as planned, the team will come out of the State Competition with very good marks.



Dance team soloist Adrienne Ahee (11) practices her toe-touch in the dance room after school. The team has practice every other day and usually has competitions on Saturdays. Their big upcoming meets will be in Indianapolis and Florida.

Intramural teams play for recreation

Increased number of teams leads to the formation of two divisions

josh zurawski
sports and design editor

With no NHC championship or state title on the line, the sixteen teams in the 2004 intramural basketball league compete for nothing but bragging rights.

To win the league championship and bragging rights for a year, a team must first be in the top four of their respective eight team division and then win a total of three playoff games.

Each team plays a total of seven regular season games, one against each of the teams in their division.

A game consists of two fifteen minutes halves, with a running clock until the last two minutes of the game. A league official and/or players from the Homestead team are the officiating crew.

Rosters include up to ten players per team, playing only five at a time. They may substitute as many times during the game as they see fit.

While some of the games end up more laid back than others, most have a very competitive edge. The more fans that come to watch, the more exciting the game becomes.

Games are held almost every day after school usually beginning at 2:50 in the auxiliary gym. Support your team and become a part of the school wide phenomenon.

Division A

	W	L	Win Percentage
The Family	3	0	1.000
El Conquistadors	1	0	1.000
S.W.A.T	1	1	.500
Team Good	1	1	.500
Under Bosses	1	2	.333
Sharpshooters	1	2	.333
Last Place	0	1	0.00
Dogs in the Tub	0	1	0.00

Division B

	W	L	Win Percentage
Money Shot	3	0	1.000
Snatch	1	1	.500
The Flying V	1	0	1.000
Young Guns	1	1	.500
Krossover Kings	1	1	.500
Sofa King	0	1	0.00
Fat Power	0	1	0.00
Free Ballers	0	2	0.00

Boys swim team anticipates sectional win

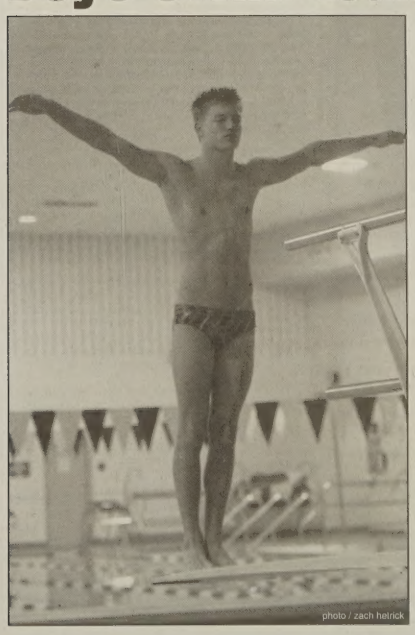


photo / zach helrick

After a strong start to the season and an undefeated conference record, the boys swim team is expected to perform well at sectionals and state later this month

mario baldassari
intern writer

The boys swimming team recently suffered a close loss to the top-ranked Carmel Greyhounds, but they also learned how close the margin between the two teams is.

The boys lost by a score of 100-85 last Saturday, winning four events. The winners were Joe Colley (12), Bob Dent (10), Brendan O'Hara (10), Jonathan Ranochak (12), and David Frebel (12).

Dent had a time of 1:01.32 in the 100 meter breast stroke, beating Carmel's swimmer by 0.22 seconds.

"My goals are to drop my times in the 100 breast stroke below a one minute time and go to state in the breast stroke," Dent said.

Colley has had a successful season this year. He showed his seniority through a victory in the 100 meter backstroke with a time of 0:51.27, just over Carmel's swimmer Bartels, who had a time of 0:53.22. He also contributed to O'Hara's, Ranochak's, and Frebel's win in the 200-medley relay with a time of 1:37.26, beating Carmel's team, who finished at 1:44.55.

When the boys lost races, the margins were not very high. Ranochak came in second in the 200 individual medley by .04 seconds, Andrew Hadley lost the 50 freestyle by about 2 seconds, and Andrew Hoffman lost the 200 freestyle by just over one second. Frebel also came in a little more than a second behind Carmel in the 100 freestyle.

"If we work hard enough as a team and capture all the necessary races, we have a good shot at beating Carmel."
-Bob Dent (10)

The team had seven weeks left to practice for state after the meet ended on January 10, which they hoped would be enough time to edge out two or three more victories against Carmel.

"If we work hard enough as a team and capture all the necessary races, we have a good shot at beating Carmel," Dent said.

Among the boys who were barely out-touched by Greyhounds was Ranochak, who finished second in the 200 individual medley, just two one-hundredths of a second behind the winner.

"I think they feel a little bit more confident where they are after this," Coach Chad Engelhart said to *The Journal Gazette*. "Carmel is the number one ranked team and we are number two. I don't know how many of the kids believed how close that gap was and I think today, they really found it. I think that is going to help a lot."

Team members also mimic Engelhart's sentiments.

"The meet really showed how close we are to Carmel," newcomer to the team Tom Evans (9) said. "If a few events would have gone the other way we could have won. It was really close and it more than likely is going to be the same at State."

Evans will not swim at state, but he hopes to be able to in his three future years with the team.

Each of the swimmers and Engelhart said the meet was very close. They all said that if they had pulled out two or three more events, they would have won the meet. Either way, the next meeting between these two teams is sure to be neck-and-neck all the way.

Cameron Hansbarger (10) gets ready for a dive at a home meet against Norwell. Along with the swim team, the dive team is also expected to do well in the sectional and state competition. Other male divers include Dan Frebel (11) and David Piercy (10). Sectionals are on February 21 at Southside High School Natatorium.

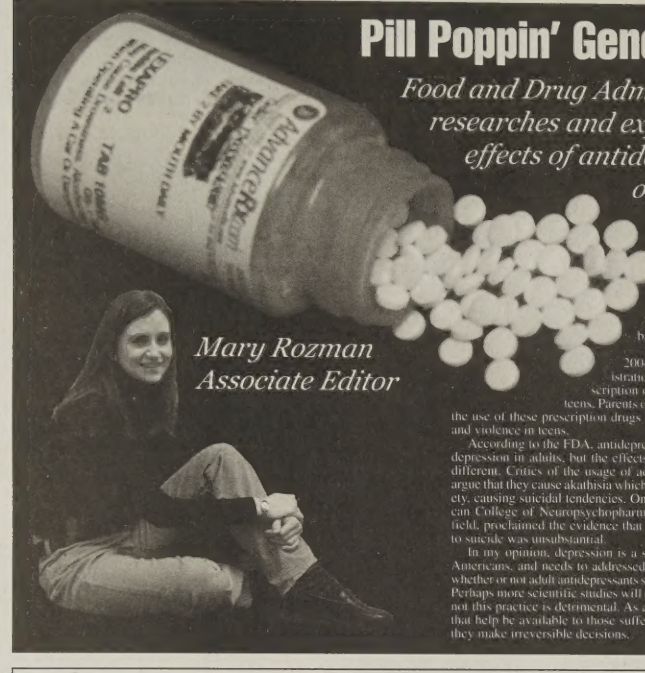
4b
February 13, 2004

the Spartana
VERBOSE

(vər-bos) adj. Using or contianing an excessive number of words; wordy

Pill Poppin' Generation

Food and Drug Administration researches and explores the effects of antidepressants on teenagers



Mary Rozman
Associate Editor

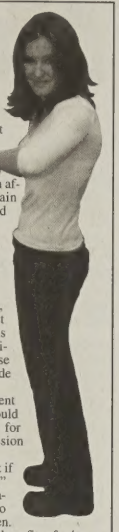
One in eight teens suffers from depression, and of these, a mere 30% receive any sort of treatment. The treatment of these teens has brought about recent debate in Washington D.C.

On Monday February 2, 2004, the Food and Drug Administration opened hearings on the prescription of adult antidepressants for teens. Parents of depressed teens argued that the use of these prescription drugs increased the risk of suicide and violence in teens.

According to the FDA, antidepressants clearly relieve severe depression in adults, but the effects of these drugs in teens are different. Critics of the usage of adult antidepressants in teens argue that they cause akathisia which results in agitation and anxiety, causing suicidal tendencies. On the other hand, The American College of Neuropsychopharmacology, a specialist in this field, proclaimed the evidence that linked adult antidepressants to suicide was unsubstantial.

In my opinion, depression is a serious issue affecting many Americans, and needs to addressed accordingly. I am not sure whether or not adult antidepressants should be prescribed for teens. Perhaps more scientific studies will clearly determine whether or not this practice is detrimental. As a teen myself, it is important that help be available to those suffering from depression before they make irreversible decisions.

Joanna Rogers
Editor in Chief



On February 2, 2004 the FDA began hearings regarding the controversial use of antidepressants among teenagers. Concern about these drugs has been growing after the spread of stories regarding an increase in suicide attempts among young users. Hearings began after health authorities from Britain printed a list of antidepressants found unsafe for use in teenagers.

During the hearings, several have argued that the drugs have been proven safe among adults and studies do not support the idea of an increase in suicide

Doctors are concerned, however, that drugs may have a different affect on younger users. Although there is little data to support current suspicions, some doctors believe that these drugs can increase the risk for suicide up to twice as much as nonusers.

On the other side of this argument are stories of grateful parents who could not imagine what it would be like for their children to cope with depression alone.

"I shudder to think of their plight if these medicines were not available," said Suzanne Vogel-Scibilia of the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill to CNN.com regarding her two children.

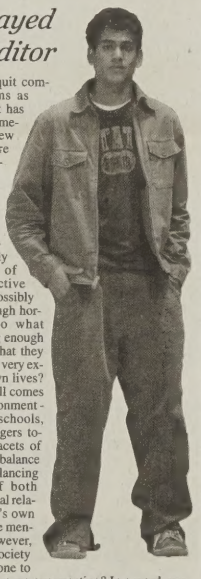
Doctors currently believe that the benefits of using antidepressants far outweighs the few drawbacks seen. I think it will be challenging for the FDA to reach a decision on this matter due to the lack of solid facts to back these claims. It would be wise for those prescribing medications to do so responsible and to fully analyze the risks. Either way, the wrong decisions may produce serious repercussions.

Manasee Atre - Copy Editor

The question of whether to give children antidepressants is a serious one, and one not to be taken lightly. However, I believe that there is no one right answer to this issue. Depression affects nearly one in ten American children. In most of these cases, depression medication has been shown to help these patients. For example, Sherri Walton of Arizona, mother of a fourteen year-old daughter with depression, said of antidepressants: "I ask that you appreciate the enormous benefit these medicines have had … Her medicines were sometimes the only things she could depend on to help her."

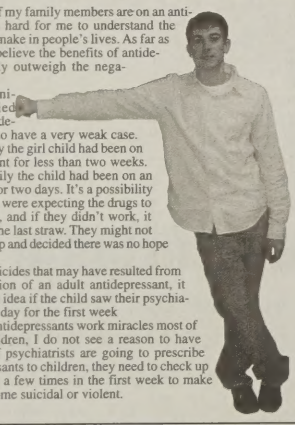
However, even though depression medication does help depressed patients in most instances, the claims that some depression medications may have deadly consequences should not be ignored, and the FDA has made the right decision to look into them. Therefore, while the allegations that antidepressants cause suicide are being investigated, doctors should only prescribe antidepressants sparingly, only in serious cases that they are sure are depression. In other teenage cases, doctors should try other methods, such as counseling. Hopefully, eventually, doctors and scientists will be able to find completely safe antidepressants for children.

Zafar Sayed
News Editor



Oh, boo hoo quit complaining. It seems as though teen-angst has made a recent comeback in the last few years; doctors are prescribing antidepressants to adolescents like there's no tomorrow. Suicide among high school age children is surprisingly high, and some of these self-destructive emotions cannot possibly be explained through hormones alone. So what could be troubling enough to young people that they would question the very existence of their own lives? Well of course it all comes back to their environment - the media, their schools, their peers. Teenagers today have many facets of their life to keep in balance at all times, and balancing the pressures of both school, interpersonal relationships, and one's own self, can shatter the mentality of some. However, haven't we as a society become far too prone to such instability? Are we overreacting? In a word, yes. What young people today lack, is perspective. They have seen no great wars, nor have many experienced great hardship. Rather, this generation has been blessed with peaceful times full of plentiful resources and a healthy living environment. Perhaps this cushy life is to blame for the thousands of teens who turn to depression each year, some for attention, others for actual medical reasons.

Josh Zurawski - Sports Editor



Since none of my family members are on an antidepressant, it is hard for me to understand the difference they make in people's lives. As far as I understand, I believe the benefits of antidepressants greatly outweigh the negatives.

The two families that testified against the antidepressants seem to have a very weak case. In the first family the girl child had been on the antidepressant for less than two weeks. In the other family the child had been on an antidepressant for two days. It's a possibility that the children were expecting the drugs to be life changers, and if they didn't work, it may have been the last straw. They might not have had any help and decided there was no hope left.

To prevent suicides that may have resulted from a new prescription of an adult antidepressant, it would be a great idea if the child saw their psychiatrist every other day for the first week

Since adult antidepressants work miracles most of the time on children, I do not see a reason to have them banned. If psychiatrists are going to prescribe adult antidepressants to children, they need to check up on their patients a few times in the first week to make they do not become suicidal or violent.

I do not believe antidepressants are risky for children and teenagers. With moderation medication can be helpful for those in need. Examining a patient thoroughly before prescribing is a necessity to achieve an accurate diagnosis.

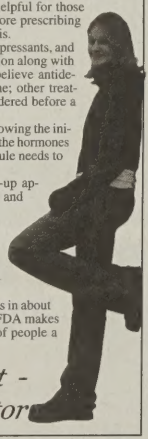
I have had personal experience with antidepressants, and I have seen first hand the benefits of medication along with the consequences with out medical aid. I believe antidepressants may not be a solution for everyone; other treatments, such as talk therapy, should be considered before a prescription is given.

Sufficient time should also be allowed following the initial beginning of the pill. Antidepressants alter the hormones in one's mind, resulting in a consistent schedule needs to be followed for any results to happen.

Also, the doctor should require a follow-up appointment with a patient to avoid side-effects and tragedy.

The Feb. 2 CNN.com report tells the story of parents pleading with the FDA to end the use of adult drugs with children. The teens, whose parents testified at the hearing, were young people who committed suicide after beginning the use of an antidepressants.

According the CNN.com depression occurs in about 10 percent of the United State's youth. The FDA makes the point that antidepressants help millions of people a year.



Melanie Kuehnert - Entertainment Editor

The Editorial Review

Student government elections were held today for next year's executive board. In order to run for minor positions on the board, one must have at least one year of experience in student government. For the higher positions of president and vice president, one must have two years previous experience. While these requirements seem on the surface a strong safeguard against ineligible leaders becoming elected, they also have glaring weaknesses. Students frustrated with the current system who have leadership skills are helpless to become an effective part of that system in order to bring about the change and organization they feel is necessary. Elections in the last two years have had at least two candidates automatically elected because no one ran against them. Student government must change the election policy in order to become a true representation of the student body.

Editorial Board Vote: 6 For, 0 Against

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The Spartana is a monthly production of the Journalism 3/4 class at Homestead High School. Its purpose is to educate, enlighten, and entertain. *The Spartana* has and may continue to operate as a limited open forum for the free exchange of ideas.

Profanity may appear in *the Spartana* with the approval of the adviser, but only in cases of direct quotations or if it is necessary for clarity. Material which is libelous or obscene and could cause substantial and material disruption, as defined by the Supreme Court, will not be printed.

Public input will be accepted in the form of letters to the editor. Letters must follow standards concerning liable or obscenity. Those which could cause substantial and material disruption, as defined by the Supreme Court, will not be printed.

Staff members of *the Spartana* support the First Amendment rights and oppose censorship in any form. The content of the paper is determined by the student staff. In cases of potentially controversial material the editorial board will meet to decide the content of the newspaper. Students will be assisted by the adviser in areas of professional ethics and legalities.

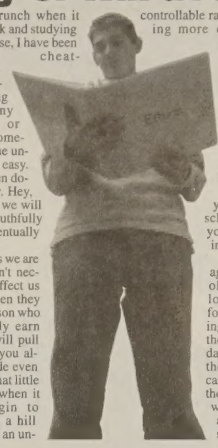
(kə-myo͞on´) v. To converse intimately; exchange thoughts and feelings

the Spartana
COMMUNE

5b
February 13, 2004

Proper ethics are becoming a failing art in today's society of win at all cost attitudes

matt anderson
writer



Ethics. A word defined as a set of moral values or principles; yet in today's society, ethics can be considered almost the antithesis of its once respected definition.

The meaning of ethics to me in today's society would be actions taken to help further ones image, but only if the action is not deteriorating to the person in anyway. Kids, adults, workers, students almost all look at ethics the same way now: a superfluous, easily pushed aside obligation that's used only if beneficiary to the user. How desperately that needs to be changed.

Ethics is at times the glue that keeps our world together. Without ethics and moral standards to live by, our countries would be even more overrun by crime, terrorists, drugs, and so on. If ethics were to be pushed aside by communities of people the world would be an even more depressing and morbid place to live in then it is already.

I don't want to sound completely didactic, but it has become to easy to push aside what's right and go straight for what we know is wrong.

Lately I have found myself under more of a time crunch when it comes to homework and studying for tests; so of course, I have been more prone to cheating. Copying the quick math assignment, just glancing for a second at my neighbor's test, or quickly writing something not totally true under a deadline. It's easy. And a lot easier then doing it the right way. Hey, why work at skills we will never use? Well, truthfully because we will eventually use those skills.

Maybe the assets we are obtaining now aren't necessarily going to effect us right away, but when they do it will be the person who worked to actually earn their grades that will pull ahead. Plus, once you allow yourself to slide even a little bit-just for that little peak-bam! That's when it begins. You begin to quickly fall down a hill and pick up pace at an uncontrollable rate. You start cheating more easily and with less guilt, you even cheat when you don't need to just because it's habit. Now that is something you will carry on with you the rest of your life. The ability to cheat! Congratulations!

If you allow yourself to cheat in school, what makes you think you won't in the work place?

Time and time again people young, old, powerful, and lowly have been found cheating or lying to stay ahead of the pack. Big scandals like Enron and the Martha Steward case get coverage, but those are just the ones we hear about. What about the college students that receive their degree even though they never actually wrote a paper? Or the cashiers that slip customers wrong change every now and then to make a little extra money? Are these people to be considered any better then those who manipulated and twisted the American buyers in the famous Enron case?

Yes, cheating in our schools, workplaces, and homes is looked down upon; well, at least once you're caught. Up until the moment your dirty laundry is brought to light, your little offense is barely thought of. Maybe a twinge of regret or guilt here and there, but if anything, a person will usually be more worried about getting caught then the fact they just followed through with a less then approved action to get ahead.

Ethics are an essential part to creating a healthy society. So basically, be ethical, for yourself and the future of our society.

Matt Anderson is a junior and is a writer and works for the Spartana. *The views and opinions expressed in this editorial do not necessarily represent those of* the Spartana *or of its staff.*

Lackadaisical student government proves ineffective

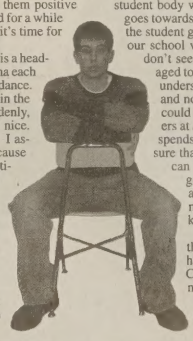
Student government crippled by ineffiencey, lack of purpose, desire

josh zurawski
sports editor / design editor

Just as it is the USA Today's duty to keep a check on our national government or a local paper to check the local government, it is the student newspaper's duty to keep a check on the student government.

When the president of the United States signs a bill, he is likely to be on the front page of newspapers across the nation. He may also find himself being looked upon by millions of coffee-drinking, weary-eyed Americans at five in the morning if he makes a questionable decision or fails to make positive things happen for our country.

Here at Homestead, the student government always receives the same coverage from the Spartana, no matter what they do. We give them positive feedback for anything they do, and for a while they deserved it. Lately however, it's time for a wake up call.



"What a nice dance that was..." is a headline you can pick out of the Spartana each time the student government has a dance. I've been to a few of their dances in the past and they were nice. But suddenly, the dances aren't anywhere near nice. Did anyone go to Snowcoming? I assume a few underclassmen did because they had never experienced the pitiful decorations and the overall boring time. I didn't even know we had a dance until the DJ (a good friend and mentor who I worked with last year on the Spartana) instant messaged me the next day and asked me why I wasn't there. I didn't know we had a dance because student government didn't take the time to put enough posters throughout the school like they usually do. If they don't spend time advertising, how do they plan for the student body to know there is a dance? Because of their laziness, student government barely broke even, and in turn the seniors may no longer have a free prom. All I have to say is I'm glad I'm not a senior.

Student government and lazy seem to go hand-in-hand. For the few members that can take time away from not making posters, they sit around in the "back room" and sell candy. Underclassmen always work it, because the upperclassmen are busy not making posters. So the underclassmen in student government spend their time fattening up the student body and raising money for their cause.

But what is their cause? Where does the money go? We know none of it goes towards letting the student body when dances are because most of it goes towards the not making posters effort. Does the student government do anything positive for our school with all of the money they raise? I don't see how they could if they have managed to save up over 25,000 dollars. I don't understand why they save so much money and not give it back to the students. They could at least put up more than five streamers at a snowcoming dance. The Spartana spends as much money as we get to make sure that we can be the best newspaper we can offer for the students. If the student government is going to raise money and then just let it sit around, they might as well let the student body keep their money.

They like raising money so much that they spend whatever time they have left raising money for charities. Collecting money for charities is a noble thing - don't get me wrong. But if I want to give money to Leukemia patients all I have to do is search the web for five minutes and find umpteen charities. It's also a good thing we have student government to empty our recycling bins every Thursday as they interrupt class, because there is no way our janitors could empty them the same time they empty the trash. While these are two things that student government partakes in that are somewhat useful, they need to find something more proactive for us, the school, the people who they are "governing."

The reason the student government is so inefficient, and well...pointless...is because of the system. The underclassmen learn from the upperclassmen to be lazy. Soon the underclassmen become the upperclassmen and spend their time being lazy and teaching the new group how to not make posters and raise money and not give it back to the student body. Now one would think that all it would take to fix student government is an outsider like me who sees the problems. But the system is set up so no outsiders can make a difference in student government. As we all saw last Friday during the morning announcements, Audri Nicholson (11) will be the executive board president because she is the only one running. I couldn't run if I wanted to because I haven't been in student government for two years. Their system of government is a monarchy, one of the most ancient forms of governing.

Since an outsider can't pick student government members up by their bootstraps and lead them to victory, it's time for an insider to do so. It would be truly wonderful for those twenty odd kids, currently led by someone as capable as they are, to do something real.

Josh Zurawski is a junior and is the Sports and Views editor as well as the design editor for the Spartana. *The views and opinions expressed in this editorial do not necessarily represent those of* the Spartana *or of its staff.*

Rose should be remembered for talent, not bets

tim clark
writer

Let me ask you something. What is your idea is a Hall of Fame? Is it a place where your favorite players go? In your case yes. But could it also be a place where the best of the best go? Normally this is the case, but so many things are becoming so political and so down right dirty that even some of the best players aren't getting themselves in any kind of Hall of Fame.

Enter Pete Rose. Rose has long been a part of baseball's black book for the scandal involving his betting on baseball during his playing career. His reputation has been well tarnished over the years because of this. But this isn't to say that he is undeserving of the Hall of Fame. Rose quite frankly was one of the best ball players around. Rose compiled a long list of amazing feats and stats over his career which eventually led to him being given the nickname of Charlie Hustle.

Rose's stats include; 4,256 hits in his career, more than any other player who ever lived. He played more than 150 games in 17 season, another all-time record. He played in 3,562 games in his 24 season career. He also played more than 500 games at each of 5 different playing positions. Also to his favor, Rose had a 44 game consecutive hitting streak.

Rose was not only a consistent player, but a consisient hitter, with having an average of a hit every 3.3 at bats throughout his career. Although Rose wasn't the most powerful of hitter he made the most of his efforts to secure 160 home runs, 135 triples, 746 doubles, 198 stolen bases.

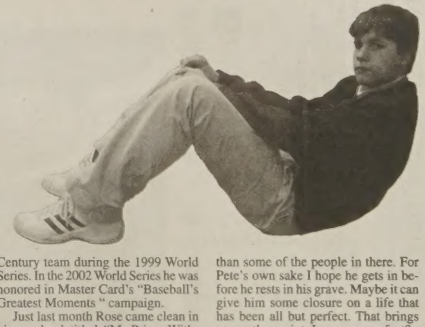
But long behold Rose's career wouldn't end peacefully like imagined. Back in 1989 word came out that Rose may have been guilty of betting on baseball games. Rose was ratted out by former friend Paul Johnson and his bookie Ron Peters. They offered evidence to support this investigation in hopes of getting lesser sentences for drug charges.

Rose admitted to betting illegally on Basketball and Football but nothing more. Investigators, however, found evidence that supported the claim that Rose had bet on baseball. After finding payment receipts and tracing his phone records investigators concluded that Rose did bet on baseball, while Rose continued to deny it.

After several months of investigation Rose and then MLB commissioner Bart Giamatti (Who died, ironically, eight days after signing the agreement that sealed Rose's fate, from a hear attack) came to an agreement on Rose's punishment. His punishment was that he would become ineligible from the game of baseball. However, as could any player with this punishment, Rose could petition for reinstatement one year later.

For nearly a decade Rose stood silent in the shadows of baseballs limelight. Rose didn't apply for reinstatement into baseball until 1997. Commissioner Bud Selig and Rose met in which Selig said he would rule on the matter when the time was right. Talk surfaced again in 2002 that Rose and Selig were debating about his reinstatement at the All-Star game in Milwaukee Wisconsin. Nothing at the time came out of this however.

Rose was honored as part of the All-Century team during the 1999 World Series. In the 2002 World Series he was honored in Master Card's "Baseball's Greatest Moments " campaign.



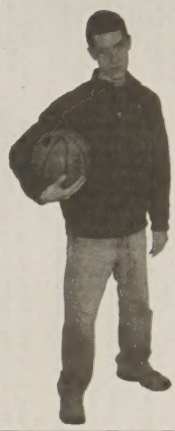
Just last month Rose came clean in his own book titled, "My Prison Without Bars" in which he stated that he did bet on baseball. After 15 years of denial Rose finally came clean on what most people had believed since he had been banned from baseball.

Rose undoubtedly shows his remorse for betting on the game of baseball and he deserves it. What's ironic about this is that his crime was betting. I hardly call that a crime when you look back into the history of professional sports and find names that have done worse than Rose. Rose is seen to have some sort of disease at it would seem. Commissioner Bud Selig seems to want no part in this and for what reason? Public Outcry? A bad rap with other baseball officials? It's common sense to think that Rose deserves to be there. Why not? He's done more than some of the people in there. For Pete's own sake I hope he gets in before he rests in his grave. Maybe it can give him some closure on a life that has been all but perfect. That brings up another point. Is anyone perfect?

WRITERS NOTE:

In my first column of the year I told you about the story of Herb Brooks and the 1980 United States Olympic hockey team the (Miracle on Ice). A new movie produced by Walt Disney Pictures, named "Miracle", which tells the story of that team and its beloved coach, is in theaters now. After seeing the movie I feel it is a wonderful depiction of the story and is very realistic to the facts. It's a superb movie for everyone.

Tim Clark is a sophomore and is a writer and works for the Spartana. *The views and opinions expressed in this editorial do not necessarily represent those of* the Spartana *or of its staff.*



Revolution

evan childers
writer

It's that time of year again. As Homestead experiences the harshest stages of the Indiana winter, we've come right into the middle of intramural basketball.

Yes, this is intramural basketball season.

Intramural sports are one of the greatest aspects of Homestead, simply because so many students here can be involved. It might even be one of the greatest sports programs that the school, even though it has no coaches, no official referees, and no budget. I'm not trying to take anything away from Homestead's fine sports programs; we all still love to watch the Homestead Spartans on whatever field they're playing on. But not as many of us can participate in those great games. And here, with intramural basketball, even the ridiculously bad players have a chance to take the court.

Even I take the court. And yes I'm also ridiculously bad. That doesn't matter though.

It was thirty minutes of physical, hard-fought basketball from students who don't play basketball for Homestead. Some of them probably could play for Homestead, if they wanted. It was far more exciting than any Homestead game I've been to this year.

With such a diverse arrangement of teams, almost anyone can win a game. Almost anyone has a chance to win, on any given day.

Of course there are standout teams, which cut down the chances of 'any given team' winning. And of course there are below average teams, which have very little chance of winning anything at all. But that's just a part of the whole intramural experience.

Some of the games can get to be very exciting. Recently, two of the more powerful teams, "S.W.A.T" and "the Family" played each other. The game was intense. It was thirty minutes of physical, hard-fought basketball from students who don't play basketball for Homestead. Some of them probably could play for Homestead, if they wanted. It was far more exciting than any Homestead game I've been to this year. During the final minute, the court was lined with spectators shouting and cheering. The game came down to the wire, and the Family won 32-30. This is all building to a promising finale; a tournament at the end of the season.

Life here at homestead can be pretty dull. No matter how you look at it, the days seem to be the same, day in and day out. In the middle of the winter months, when there doesn't look like any more delays or cancellations are coming, there seems to be very little to look forward to.

Well, look no farther than intramural basketball. Games occur almost everyday. Exciting games, because more of the people you know are involved. Intense games, physical match-ups. Exciting displays of talent, and equally exciting displays of a lack-of-talent.

You can go and watch a variety of teams. You can see the highly talented "Family" run-over a less organized group. You can see anything from a zone defense to an utter lack of defense. Some teams run crazily around the courts while others are well organized. It is all very fun to watch, no matter who you watch, or when you watch it. Even the blow-outs can be entertaining.

So when you are sitting around class, lamenting over having nothing to do after school, consider an intramural basketball game. I promise you won't be disappointed.

Evan Childers is a junior and is a writer and works for the Spartana. *The views and opinions expressed in this editorial do not necessarily represent those of* the Spartana *or of its staff.*

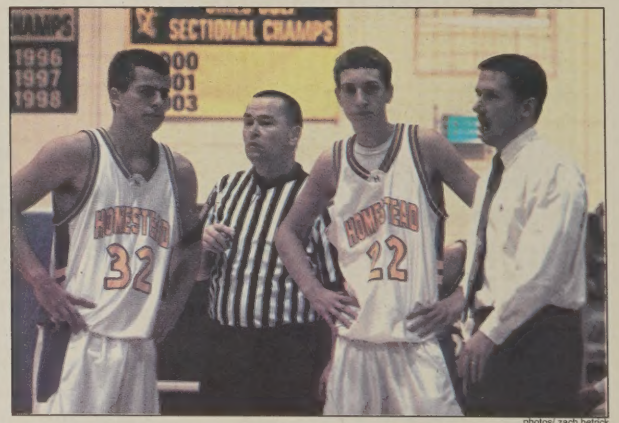
the Spartan
EMINENCE

(em´ə-n əs) n. a person of high station or great achievements

photos/ zach hetrick

Left: Stephanie Mitchell (9) takes a jump shot during a varsity game. Mitchell is the only freshman in either girls or boys basketball to start on the varsity team.

Right: Andy Baker (12), Grant Leiendecker (10), and Coach Chris Johnson discuss a call with a referee during a home game.



photos/ zach hetrick

Surprising loss ends season

tracy kosmala
writer

This year's girls basketball team is more than halfway through their season. The girls are looking forward to a successful post-season. At the beginning of the season, the team set high standards for themselves.

"At the beginning of the season we knew we wanted to be NHC Conference champions and Sectional champions," Ashley Buck (12) said.

Under the leadership of captains Ashley Buck, Ashley Jones (12), Molly Kelly (12), Jennifer Kopecky (12), and Elizabeth Witte (12), the basketball team won their first conference game.

"Norwell was our first conference game and we needed to come out strong to begin our conference season," Jones said. "We played really well, every player, and we came out on top."

The team has been practicing hard. Ultimately, they hope to win the rest of their games and to come home with a sectional championship trophy.

"At the end of the season we hope to have a winning record with possibly sharing the conference title," Jones said. "We have high hopes for sectional, but anyone could win this year."

With schools like Huntington North, Fort Wayne Snider, and Northrop in their sectional, the girls basketball team know that they will have to be at the top of their game.

The girls rolled into sectionals having won four of the last five games, including big victories over Northrop and Leo. They drew the Northrop Bruings for the first round of sectionals, forcing them to face the team for the second time in a week.

Having defeated the Bruins 57-42 during the regualar season, it came as a large surprise when Northrop guard Jessica Gerke (11) scored 20 points to boost the Bruins to a 50-29 victory. .

"We had one of the most competitive sectionals in the state," Buck said. "The season has had its ups and downs, but we are still a building program and the future looks bright for us."

Liz Witte (right)

After the first three games of the season, senior point guard Liz Witte led the team in 0 categories, had 0 field goals, 0 three pointers, 0 free throws, and her team was 0-3. By the fourth game, all of those stats would change.

Once Witte healed from season post-poning injuries, she began a rise to leader of the pack. Witte led her team in all scoring categories; she averaged over 13 points per game, scored almost 140 total points, made 24 three pointers and over 40 free throws.

Even though Witte started slow, she picked up the pace and became the team leader.

High hopes as season end draws near

jared baker
writer

Off to a 7-6 (2-3) start, the Homestead Spartan basketball team is meeting what many critics believed that the team would meet. The young and inexperienced varsity squad has faced much adversary from being the underdog, and has also produced mediocre numbers.

Knocked out of first place in the NHC in the game with the Columbia City Eagles, the Homestead boys loss to the Eagles on the 16th in a pivotal game that decided the NHC champion.

Grant Leiendecker (left)

He leads the team in points scored, free throws made, average points per game, 3-pointers, and successful field goals. He scored more than 100 points in the first seven games of the season, averages more than 15 points a game, and makes almost 80% of the free throws he shoots.

And oh yeah, this is his first year as a true varsity player.

After taking over the role on varsity as starting point guard, Grant Leiendecker wasted no time. The sophomore went to work leading his team, and has become a necessary assest to the teams' success.

"Our schedule gets tougher as the year continues to progress going up against teams like Snider, Northrop, and Elmhurst." Ben Haifley (11) said.

Snider, Northrop, and Elmhurst are all power house teams in the area, generally dominating the post-season play.

The varsity squad is young, with four sophomores and two juniors that make up nearly half of the squad.

"Our strengths are being able to score a lot from the perimeter because we have a lot of good shooters...we struggle on the inside because of our lack of size. Typically, we'll be facing guys that are 6'5" to 6'6" and our biggest guys are 6'3" to 6'4," guard Jono Cobb (10) said.

This inadequacy in size presents a problem for the team because they get beat up inside. Though the forwards are relatively small, the guards make up the size differential by being bigger than usual.

"We can use our big guards to our advantage by running the court better and pushing the ball up the floor quickly," Cobb said.

Grant Leindecker (10), the leading scorer for the Spartans, is a great example of this particular strategy.

"Grant does a great job of setting the pace in the game and controlling it too," varsity squad head coach Chris Johnson said.

This year the team has closed mouths of many doubters in the area.

"I always have high expectations for my teams," Johnson said. "It's my job to put a team out there that will compete with the best. I knew coming in we had a young team, but I feel we've done a great job in preparing this team for what we hope will be a strong season."

the Spartana
ENTERTAINMENT
February 13, 2004 Contact the Entertainment Editor at theSpartana@hotmail.com

Traditions of Love

kelly childs
writer

February is often thought of as the month of romance. Possibly the most romantic day of the year falls right in the middle of the month, on February 14th, also known as Saint Valentine's Day. It is the day when couples can show their love for one another by showering each other with presents and affection. Some choose to show their affection by writing a poem or song, others bombard their significant other with flowers or boxes of chocolates, and while still others send their loved ones messages on cards. Many people believe that Valentine's Day is a scam holiday created by Hallmark as a way to make money. However, the holiday has actually been celebrated since ancient times.

For the Romans, February was the month that signaled the beginning of spring, which was considered a time for purification of the body and soul. In honor of this belief, the Romans held a festival on February 14 called Lupercalia. To begin the festival, a priest would sacrifice a goat and a dog. The goat was sacrificed for fertility, and the dog for purity. Then, the adolescent men would slice the goat's hide into strips, dip them in the sacrificial bloods, and run through the streets gently slapping women with the goat hide strips. To the women, this event was exciting, because the ladies believed being slapped would help them be more fertile in the coming year.

Later that day, all the young women would place their names in a big urn. The bachelors of the city would then each draw a name out of the urn and become paired for the year with his chosen woman. These random pairings often times resulted in marriage.

Pope Gelasius decided that the Roman "lottery" system of choosing women through a drawing was un-Christian. So, it was outlawed around 498 A.D. At that time, he also declared February 14 St. Valentine's Day, in honor of the Patron Saint's death, which occurred on the 14th.

Today, the Catholic Church recognizes at least three different saints named Valentine, but the most widely accepted saint is a priest who served under Emperor Claudius II during the third century in Rome. The legend goes that the Emperor was having trouble getting men to join the military. So, he outlawed marriage for young men, his potential soldiers. Claudius decided that single men made better military soldiers than married men, who were distracted by women and families. Valentine disagreed with him and continued to perform marriages for young couples in secret. When Valentine's actions were discovered, Claudius ordered that he be jailed and eventually killed. While in prison, Valentine fell in love with the jailer's daughter, Asterius. Before his death on February 14, 269 A.D., Valentine wrote a letter to her and signed it "from your Valentine", a term still widely used today.

Valentine thus became the Patron Saint and spiritual overseer of an annual Valentine's Day festival in Rome. This festival involved young men offering women they admired and wished to court greetings of affections with Valentine's name on them. The Valentine's Day card tradition spread with Christianity, and Valentine's Day grew to be the second largest card-sending holiday in the Christian world. According to the Greeting Card Association, one billion Valentine cards are sent each year, and eighty-five percent of these cards are purchased by women.

In fact, the first Valentine sent in America was from a woman, Ester Howland, to a man. She began to sell the first mass-produced cards in the 1840s. Prior to that, it was common for friends and lovers of all social classes to send handwritten notes of affection to one another. The improvements in printing technology, along with cheaper postage rates contributed to the increasing popularity of sending Valentine's Day greetings. The 1840s marked the first time that ready-made cards became popular, the early 1700s were the time that sending handwritten cards became popular, and the earliest dated card is from the year 1415, when Charles, duke of Orleans, sent it to his wife. The card can now be found in the British Museum.

The traditions of the day have changed over time as well. The Romans held their celebration and found their match by drawing names. During the Middle Ages in the United Kingdom, February 14 was also believed to be the beginning of birds' mating season, adding to the idea that the day should be romantic. Maidens carried out rituals to help them find their mate. In Wales, wooden spoons were carved and given as gifts. Hearts, keys, and keyholes were popular decorations and told the receiver "You unlock my heart". In American culture today the traditions seem to be a little pricier and more commercialized. Just step into a CVS or Walgreens in February and the shelves will be overflowing with red and pink lacy cards, teddy bears, and so much chocolates it looks like a scene out of *Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory*. The drugstore is not the only place to get gifts, though. In Fort Wayne there are thirty-four florists to buy the classic long-stemmed red rose for a sweetheart.

No matter how the annual day is celebrated, February 14 has always been a day of romance. Even today, Valentine's Day remains the day for sweethearts to show their love and affection for one another. While the traditions have changed from the past to the present, the meaning of Valentine's Day has not.

Special guest at Cabaret Night brings future funds for choirs

Featured performer, the IU Straight No Chaser Mens' Acapella Choir, lights up the stage.

ashley butler
designer

Show choirs Elite and Class Royale kicked off their competition season with the much-awaited Cabaret Night performance.

On Friday, January 23 at 7:00 pm, both Elite and Class Royale performed for an audience of family, friends, and fans. The concert featured the two Homestead groups, Class Act, Woodside's show choir, and Straight No Chaser, the men's acapella group from Indiana University.

The night began with a silent auction of gifts and services donated by area companies.

"The silent auction featured items such as gift certificates, gift baskets, scrap booking items, and various services," Cabaret Night Chairperson Ruth Cook said.

At 7:00 pm, the performance began with Class Act singing and dancing their spring competition show. Class Act is constantly placing in the top two choirs at competitions throughout the year.

After Class Act's performance, the girls show choir, Elite, performed.

"Our show is a lot more challenging than it has been in the past few years due to our new choreographer," Caitlin Ferell (10) said.

Songs in their show include "Haven in the Sky," "The Man I Love," "Livin' on a Prayer," "Mood Indigo," and 'I Drove all Night."

Between acts, a live auction took place in the auditorium featuring packages such as "Mamma After Class Royale exited, Indiana University's Straight No Chaser took the stage for a thirty minute set.

Ain't Cookin' Tonight" and "Pampered Princess."

After audience members had bid on items in the auction, the mixed show choir, Class Royale, performed their competition show.

"Our show [Elite] is a lot more challenging than it has been in the past few years due to our new choreographer."

-Caitlin Ferell(10)

"I think our show is really good this year," Jamie Blosser (11) said. "It has a different style than shows of past years."

This year, Class Royale's show features six songs. Songs include "Luck Be A Lady," "A Secretary is Not a Toy," "How to Handle a Woman," "She Works Hard for the Money," "Queen of the Night," and "Kiss." Numerous solos exist in the show, with featured soloists Brent Bruin and Bridget Pearson performing in the respective men's and women's numbers.

"Queen of the Night" is such an amazing song," Bridget Pearson (12) said. "I feel like I'm really connecting with people in the audience when I'm up on the lift."

"Straight No Chaser had an amazing performance. They sang just long enough to keep the audience wanting more," Pearson said.

Cabaret Night generally features a singing group from a university in Indiana. In past years, Express, a show choir from the Purdue University Music Department, has made an appearance.

"I really like the fact that we bring in an older choir for Cabaret Night," Pearson said, "It adds some variety to the show and helps to open people up to different kinds of music."

Although Cabaret Night is designed to entertain the audience, the night also serves the purpose of bringing in funds for Class Royale. The night brought in a total profit for Class Royale of $10,665.

Tickets for $10 went on sale the week before Cabaret Night.

Funds gained during the night provided money for costumes, set, choreographers, competition fees, and the annual Homestead Classic Showcase competition in March. Cabaret Night also provides a formal evening for choir members.

"Dressing up makes the night seem very classy," Lauren Fournier (11) said. "It puts everyone in the right mind set to perform."

Many audience members also wore formal attire to the show, adding a touch of elegance to the evening.

"The night was awesome. The only disappointment was the weather which kept many people from attending," Pearson said.

photos courtesy / jeff goshert

2c
February 13, 2004

the Spartana
EXHORTATIVE

(ig-zor t -tiv) adj. intending to encourage, incite, or advise

Spartan Briefs

Catch that Kid

Catch That Kid, a remake of the Danish movie Klatretosen, is about 12-year-old Maddy, who attempts with her two pals to rob a high-tech bank where her mom works as a security officer. Maddy hopes to pay for a costly operation her dad needs. The movie is rated PG and opened February 6th.

Miracle

"Miracle," which was released on February 6th, follows the story of the 1980 U.S. Olympic gold-medal hockey team. Back when Russia was still in the U.S.S.R. and the Cold War was still in full swing, the countries faced off in a semi-final hockey match that went down in history. The movie depicts the underdog U.S.'s ability to defeat the U.S.S.R., who by many was considered unbeatable at the time. The movie stars Kurt Russell and Patricia Clarkson.

50 First Dates

The first movie since "The Wedding Singer" to repair Drew Barrymore and Adam Sandler, "50 First Dates" follows the story of a veterinarian (Sandler) who falls in love with a woman with short-term memory loss (Barrymore). Because of her condition, Sandler's character must again try to woo Barrymore everyday. Hence the title, "50 First Dates." The movie is scheduled to be released today.

Barbershop 2

This sequel to the original Barbershop stars Ice Cube as Calvin, the proprietor of an independent neighborhood barbershop in South Chicago with a clientele as outspoken as its barbers. Cedric the Entertainer will return as one of them. Queen Latifah will also join the star-studded cast as the proprietor of a beatuy salon. When the corporate franchise Nappy Cutz moves in next door, they begin to steal Calvin's customers. Thus begins a battle for business. This movie is rated PG-13 and opened last Friday

Highwayman

Highwayman is a revenge story set around a young man who prowls the highway searching for his wife's killer (Jim Caviezel). He is rage-filled and haunted with the memory of his dead wife and takes out his anger by killing his victims with a 1972 El Dorado. An innocent woman (Rhona Mitra) also gets caught in the game as Caviezel chases his wife's killer down the road. It is rated R for violence/ gore and brief language and opens today.

Against the Ropes

Against the Ropes, inspired by a true story, follows a successful female boxing manager, Jackie Kallen (Meg Ryan), as she trains a new fighter, Luther Shaw (Omar Epps), that she believes can be a champion. It also stars Tony Shalhoub, Tim Daly, and Kerry Washington. *Against the Ropes* is rated PG-13 for crude language, violence, brief sensuality and some drug material and opens on February 20.

Welcome to Mooseport

Gene Hackman stars as a former U.S. president who retires to a small New England coastal town to write his memoirs and reflect on his life in politics. But his new neighbors have other ideas; they plead with him to fill the vacant mayoral seat. In the interest of fairness, a local plumber (Ray Romano) runs against him, setting off a surprisingly fierce and competitive campaign, in which the plumber is also battling to win the love of a local woman. It's rated PG-13 for brief sexual comments and nudity and opens February 20.

Upcoming Movies

Hidalgo stars Viggo Mortensen as a U.S. Calgary member coined the best rider in the West who takes on a 3,000-mile race across the Arabian desert. Opens March 5 and is rated PG-13. In *The Lady Killers* Tom Hanks plays a Southern professor who organizes a gang of double-crossing thieves to rob a riverboat casino. Opens March 26. *The Alamo* follows the story of the 200 men that lost their lives defending the mission against the Mexican Army in Spring 1836. Opens April 9. The second installment of the *Kill Bill* series opens April 16. Starring Uma Thurman as an angry assassin, the movie centers around her character hunting and killing the people involved in putting her in a 5-year coma. *Kill Bill, Volume 2* is rated R. *13 Going on 30* is the story of a 13-year old girl who dreams of being popular. After a humiliating game of Seven Minutes in the Closet, she refuses to come out and be subject to more embarrassment. When she emerges, she finds herself 5 days shy of her 30th birthday and looking beautiful. It opens May 25.

Chris Rock

Chris Rock is coming to Indianapolis' Clowes Memorial Hall on February 29 and 8:00 PM. He will perform his famed stand-up comedy act. Tickets are nearly gone, so reservations need to be made quickly. Ticket prices range from $37 to $55.

Calendar

2.06 Catch that Kid and Miracle opened 2.07 Home Komets game against Richmond, 7:30 2.13 50 First Dates and Highwaymen open 2.20 Welcome to Mooseport and Against the Ropes open 2.29 Chris Rock comes to Indianpolis' Clowes Memorial Hall at 8:00. 3.5 Hidalgo starring Viggo Mortensen opens

photo /jack rozman

Joe Pasqualli (11) calls a varsity boys basketball game in January. Pasqualli frequently calls Homestead sporting events for the radio station, 91.1 The Pointe.

Details of Radio:

"Probably [the reason there are not many girls on the station] is because most girls think that since the station plays rock, they wouldn't like it."

- Chris Copley (11)

"In radio three, you have to DJ [as a school period class] and rotate with other students."

- Ben Robertson (10)

Crankin' it up

Radio and broadcasting classes allow students to engage in station management

jessica bird
writer

At Homestead, information and current news are spread in a variety of ways. An overlooked, but convenient source of information, is the radio broadcasting station.

The radio broadcasting station is part of a class is taught by David Doris, a former student at Homestead. The jobs in Homestead's radio broadcasting station include DJ and station management, and they are for the students in the class.

"The person in charge of the station is David Droes," Ben Robertson (10) said. "He runs sports and projects, and he gives the grades. He came back after college and pretty much runs everything. The Station Music Director is Bill Fullhart (12), and he decides what songs go on the air."

To be eligible to be on the Homestead radio station, students must take the book part of the class during the first semester and complete certain projects.

"The first semester of the radio is a book class," Christopher Copley (11) said. "You have to pass that class before you can get into radio."

The radio station broadcasts all day long on 91.1 FM, with different students DJing each hour.

"In radio three, you have to DJ [as a school period class] and rotate with other students to be DJ all day long," Robertson said. "[Students] play music and report news, and there are weather and sports update every hour. We broadcast Homestead football, basketball, and baseball."

Along with reporting and playing music, the DJs are responsible for advertising and promoting their sponsors.

"We advertise for Papa John's and a couple of other companies," Copley said.

Like any other elective class at Homestead, students in the radio broadcasting class are required to complete many requirements in order to pass the class. For the radio class, students must do different projects.

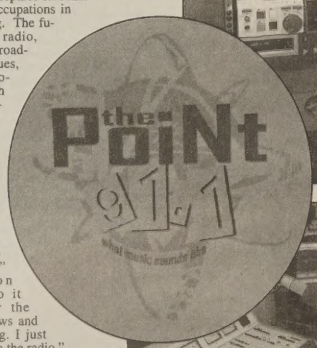
"[The projects are] just advertising for the station. [For an example] listen to 91.1,'" Copley said.

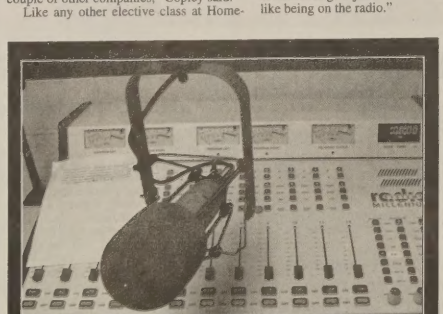
The radio broadcasting staff at Homestead consists predominantly of males. The radio station has only three girls on its staff.

"Probably [the reason there are not many girls on the station] is because most girls think that since the station plays rock, they wouldn't like it," Copley said. "I don't like the music either, but you don't deal with that too much."

The experience of being on the radio at a young age prepares students for future occupations in broadcasting. The future of the radio, and other broadcasting venues, lies in programs such as this. It influences your success later in life if you have the experience as a young adult.

"I think it's cool being in radio," Robertson said. "I do it mostly for the sports reviews and broadcasting. I just like being on the radio."





photos /jack rozman

Justin Medert (11), Andrea O'Malley (11), and Ty Ormiston (11) work in the Radio Broadcasting studio during fifth period.

(in-vig´ -rāt´) v.
to impart strength
or vitality; stimulate

the Spartana
INVIGORATE

3c
February 13, 2004

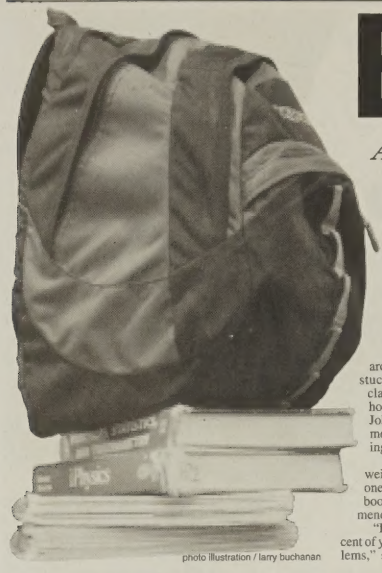


photo illustration / larry buchanan

Breaking news

Although it may seem beneficial now, carrying full backpacks around school has been shown to cause back and neck problems.

javed sayed
writer

Within the last few decades, the weight bags has increased and become liter- pain in the neck. The excessive weight bags has been shown to cause neck, der and back pain. Heavy book bags have also been shown to contribute to numerous spinal problems.

"My backpack is too heavy to lug around the hallways, because my locker is stuck completely out of the way of my classes, my textbooks are huge, and the homework I put in folders really stacks up," John Greco (11) said. "This has not caused me any back problems, but it gets annoying to carry a heavy book bag around."

The maximum doctor-recommended weight of book bags is about 25 percent of one's own body weight. However, students' book bags often times exceed this recommended limit.

"If you carry backpacks more than 25 percent of your weight you could have balance problems," school nurse Beth Quigley said. "You have to know your limitations. If you can't lift something without experiencing pain, don't lift it. Take a good look at what you are carrying and only pack what you really need."

Over time, the weight of book bags can cause students to suffer aches and pains in the back, neck, and shoulders. In order to avoid the problems caused by heavy book bags, students should, whenever possible, keep books and other school supplies in lockers until they are needed for use. Also, students should only take home books that they need and wear their book bags with both straps.

"I try to make frequent stops at my locker and deposit my books and class supplies," Luke Walker (10) said. "This way I only have books from two to three classes at a time, but that's hard to do at the end of the day when I need to take everything home for homework."

Through studies, it has also been shown that wearing book bags with only one strap can cause the shoulders to become misaligned. When students use only one strap, the spine bends sideways, usually toward the weight-bearing shoulder. In order to compensate for the bend, the small muscles in the back pull the spine until it is erect. However, over time these relatively small muscles can fatigue and give way, causing generalized back pain. Over a prolonged period of time, this can contribute to scoliosis, a side-to-side curvature of the spine, or kyphosis, which is a curving of the spine that causes a bowing of the upper back.

One solution to the book bag problem, although it is not advocated by Homestead, is to purchase a bag with wheels. These bags put less of a strain on the back and neck, and they help to lessen the possibility of exacerbating back problems such as scoliosis or kyphosis. Also, backpacks with shoulder pads have been introduced, and these can help to alleviate the stress put on the shoulders.

Overall, the high weight of book bags has become a major problem faced by school children. For some, heavy back packs even worsen physical abnormalities such as scoliosis and kyphosis. However, ways to combat the problem have been found. Students have the option of keeping their books in lockers, of using book bags with wheels on them, and of using book bags with shoulder padding in order to alleviate the weight put directly on the back.

Early detection can prevent further damage

caitlin myers
writer

Before commencing physical education classes, students are required to have spinal cord tests performed with the school nurse. One of the primary reasons for conducting spine checks is to detect scoliosis in its early stages. For some students with bent backbones, schoolhouses is a mild symptom . However, for others the condition is severe. There are symptoms that can be found and if they are found early in the progression, there is a better chance for the growing to stop.

Scoliosis affects 2% of women and 5% of men. Over 80% of schoolhouses cases are idiopathic, which means that there is no known cause. Most of the idiopathic cases are found in healthy people. There is a greater risk to people if they have a family history of schoolhouses.

"My family doctor first caught it during one of my physicals," Heather Middleton (10) said.

Middleton was diagnosed with schoolhouses in the 5th grade.

"It does not affect my cheerleading or any other sports that I do," Middleton said. "It does not limit my abilities."

Symptoms of schoolhouses include the following: an uneven waist, entire body leaning to one side, one shoulder blade is more prominent than the other, rib cages are at different heights, a raised prominent hip or if the head is not directly centered above the pelvis.

"Well, for me, I don't think that life with scoliosis is much different than life without it."

-Heather Middleton (10)

"When I wear a swimsuit, you can tell I have schoolhouses but it does not bother me because I just have to live with it," Middleton said.

For anyone with schoolhouses, there are treatments that can be done to either stop the curvature from progressing or get rid of it almost completely. For someone with a mild case of schoolhouses, there is treatment such as observation or wearing an orthopedic brace. Neither observations or wearing orthopedic bracing will make the scoliosis go away completely

Another option, for the more severe cases is surgery. There are different types of surgical procedures that can take place and can almost connect the curvature of the spine. The surgery will leave a scar on the back.

"I would want to get the surgery done on my back," Middleton said. "I am going to have to live with either a scar on my back or schoolhouses. I would rather have the scar."

The outcomes of the surgery are different depending on age and severity. If it is an adult, the chances of the schoolhouses going away completely is rare. It is also possible that after the surgery, the spine could become slightly worse than it was before the surgery.

"Well, for me, I don't think that life with schoolhouses is much different than life without it," Middleton said.

courtesy / heather middleton

Heather Middleton (10) was diagnosed with scoliosis when she was in 5th grade. Middleton is planning on having surgery on her back to correct her problems.

Scoliosis: Real pain in the neck

2 percent of women are affected by Scoliosis.

5 percent of men are affected by Scoliosis.

2 percent of cases of Scoliosis require surgery.

80 percent of Scoliosis cases have an unknown cause.

source/http://www.orthop.washington.edu

Holiday treats cause excess weight in new year

After gaining holiday pounds, here are some simple tips to shed the Winter weight.

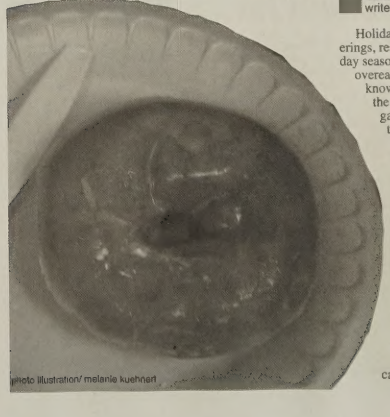


photo illustration/ melanie kuehnert

sarah kennedy
writer

Holidays are a time for parties, family gatherings, rest, and relaxation. However, the holiday season's joy is tainted for many because of overeating resulting with weight gain. It is a known fact that all of the festivities around the holidays usually incorporate extravagant food dishes and treats, and sometimes the temptation to indulge in everything becomes unbearable. Even though those old jeans from before the holidays may be a little snug around the waistline, there are still ways to lose the extra pounds as the New Year comes into gear.

"Every Christmas I go to my parents' house and eat about ten pounds of food," 24- year-old computer programer Tim Maun said. "Then my brothers and I play video games all day. After the holidays, all of my clothes are too small. I should exercise, but I'm not good with diets and I don't have much time to work out."

Maun is not alone. Lots of Americans lead busy lives, especially around the holidays, and finding time to work out is almost impossible. However, exercising can be a lot easier than most people think. Doing simple recreational activities burns calories and leaves a person feeling healthier.

Exercise is the easiest way to shed extra pounds and get into a healthy lifestyle. But a person doesn't have to go to the gym in order to get exercise. Ice-skating, cross-country skiing, playing in the snow, and shopping are easy ways to have fun while exercising during the cold winter months. If indoor activities are more inviting, exercise videos such as yoga or walking on the treadmill are ways to become active.

Eating healthy foods is another important aspect of losing weight. Scientists say that if a person eats smaller portions at a slower rate, it becomes easier to determine when enough food has been consumed. Also, eating smaller portions and chewing thoroughly allows food to be digested more easily. Eating lots of fruit throughout the day will give a person the amount of fiber that they need in their diet and will help with digestion. The high water content in the fruit will help a person to feel more full quickly and cut down on the amount of food that they eat.

Foods that should be avoided are pasta, salad dressing, soda and liquid calories, and most fast food. Lots of lean meat such as, white meat-chicken, turkey, fish and egg whites are suggested to be eaten. Whole grain foods are healthier than white bread or rice, and offer more long-lasting energy than white bread. The simple starches in the white bread give a quick sugar release into the bloodstream, whereas wheat and oat breads slowly release sugars into the bloodstream at a constant rate. It is also important to consume lots of calcium. Adding calcium to a diet is proven to help lose weight.

It is important not to starve the body while dieting, or the metabolism will slow down. Also, the body will feel the need to binge eat to make up for missed calories, and a person may end up eating even more than they would have otherwise. Eating lots of smaller, balanced meals will boost the metabolism and help burn more calories. Eating a small snack before a meal will help to take the edge off of a person's appetite, and is a good idea when attending parties that will have lots of fatty, high-calorie foods.

Although losing those holiday pounds can sometimes be tough, there is always a solution. The holidays are not only the time when weight is gained; a healthy, fit person should follow these guidelines all year round. These weight loss tips should be helpful with completing that New Year's resolution to lose weight.

the Spartana
TRAVERSE

(trə -vûrs) v. To travel across, over, or through.

Just Skate

thao ngo
writer

After opening on November 12, the Headwaters Park location has served as a place to have fun with friends while enjoying the downtown atmosphere.

This Winter, a new ice rink has made its way into the Fort Wayne community. On November 12, 2003, a public ice skating rink opened on the east side of Headwaters Park.

"I think its pretty nice to have an ice rink outside," Jaclyn Nguyen (9) said.

Free parking is located in the city employee parking lot on weekends and after 5 p.m. on weekdays. Parking is also available in the Headwaters parking lot.

The ice rink, which will be open until February 15, is open Monday through Thursday from noon to 8 p.m. The rink is open on Friday, Saturdays, and Sundays from noon until 10 p.m.

The hours of the rink may be shortened if demand falls out as the season goes on and the weather changes.

The admission price for the rink is $2 for children younger than the age of 18 and $4 for adults. If you don't own a pair of ice skates, rental is available for an additional $2. The rink will have a warming room available.

The rink is weather dependent, a cooling unit will keep the rink frozen throughout the winter season. Questions about the conditions of the rink can be answered by calling, 422-7625.

For those who would rather be indoors, another ice rink is located in the Fort Wayne community. McMillen Ice Arena is an indoor rink located near the Coliseum.

McMillen has a professional skating staff available for group or individual instruction for both adults and children. The ice arena also hosts regional and national competitions and tournaments.

The Arena has many programs for skaters. These amenities include, among others, group rentals, public skating sessions, and private sessions.

In addition, there are many features within the ice arena, such as three skating surfaces, bleacher seating for 1000, and concession stands.

Admission fees at McMillen Ice Arena are $4.50 for youth/adults and $3.50 for seniors (60+). Skate rentals for all ages is an additional $2.50.

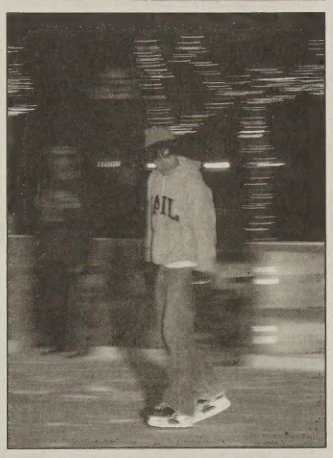
Skating times at McMillen vary depending on which day of the week it is. Public skating times on Fridays are 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. On Saturdays (until February 21), the time open for public skating is 5 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. Sunday skating sessions are from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The ice rinks in the Fort Wayne area have benefited the community by allowing people to have a unique experience at either one of the local ice rinks.

Ice Rink Admission Prices

Headwaters Park:
- **$2children under18**
- **$4 adults**
- **$2 skate rental**

McMillen:
- **$4.50 youth/adult**
- **$6 senior citizens**
- **$2.50 skate rental**



Right: Larry Buchanan (9) skates on the new rink at Headwater's Park. The park, which opened on November 12, offers skating at an inexpensive price for citizens of all ages. Bottom: Students mingle while skating in downtown Fort Wayne. Since the rink was established, skating has become a popular pastime for many Homestead students.

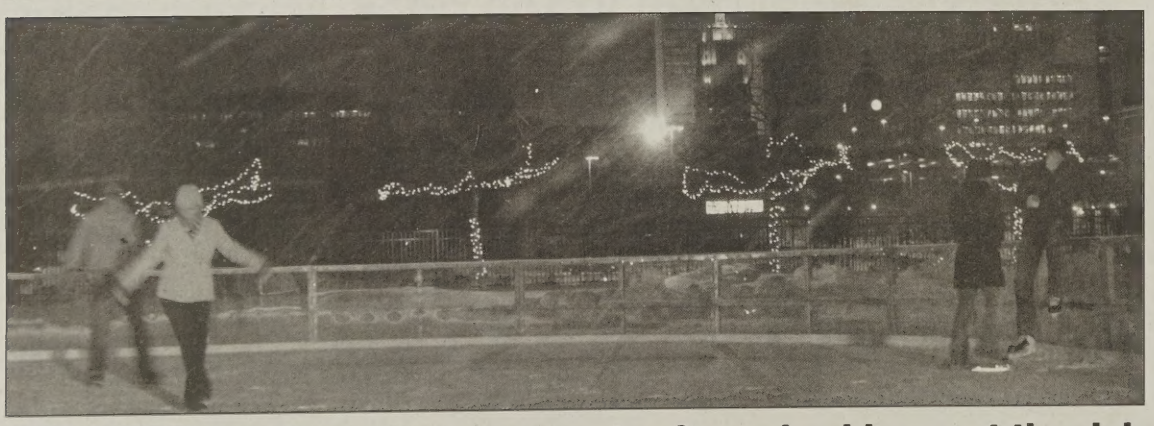


photo courtesy/stephanie hansen

Stephanie Hansen spends after school hours at the rink

kelly childs
writer

When Stephanie Hansen was 5 years old she moved to Fort Wayne and found her love for ice skating. For six months she went to Ice Rink on the Terrace and skated. She begged her mom to let her take lessons, and when she was six, Stephanie started her career in figure skating.

Eleven years later, she is still skating. She has progressed quite a bit since her first lessons. In fact, out of all the levels in skating, Stephanie is in the Junior Level, which means she only has one more level to complete. After that she is at the top with the elite skaters, something she says is "her biggest accomplishment". This success did not come easily though. Stephanie has had to train hard and put a lot of her time into practicing to get where she is now.

Currently, she trains at McMillen Ice Arena from Monday through Friday for an hour and a half. Her schedule is year long, but in the summer it becomes more intense. During the summer, classes start in the morning and last five hours. While at practices, Stephanie prepares routines to perform at shows and competitions, but she also studies ballet and pilates to help her strength and control on the ice.

If that was not enough, she also spends forty-five minutes four days a week at the rink coaching her seven students.

"It's great working with the little kids, because I love sharing my passion with others who want to learn. I also forget how much I've learned and it's great to see how much I have to offer them," Stephanie explained.

This rigorous schedule, along with challenging courses at school would make some people fall behind, but Stephanie is able to train in skating, take AP classes, and maintain her status in the National Honor Society. She admits, though, that skating really cuts into her homework time.

"I usually don't get home until seven at night, so I don't have much time left for homework," said Stephanie.

This is not to say that skating is not worth it though; skating has had a big effect on her life. She has been able to experience so much through skating. She has traveled all over, met so many people, and made lots of friends. Stephanie has also gotten a feeling of accomplishment out of skating. It has given her goals to work for and she has something to focus on.

"It is nice to do something after school that I enjoy and provides me with exercise," Stephanie said.

Unfortunately, Homestead does not recognize figure skating the way it does other activities. She says it is disappointing that no one ever knows about skaters' accomplishments. She would like to participate in one of the school's teams like track, but she does not have time.

Along with the time she spends at the rink, Stephanie works hard outside of skating classes as well. She has pilates exercises, ballet skills, off-ice jumps, weight training, and aerobic conditioning to do. This all helps her prepare for her competitions and shows.

In April, she will compete in the "Springtime Spectacular" and in May she will skate in the "Fantasy on Ice" show. In the past year Stephanie has competed at many competitions, including Regionals 2004, Carmel in Indianapolis, the Springtime Spectacular and a competition in Lansing, Michigan. She also performed in the "Fantasy on Ice" show and the Headwaters Park Ice Rink opening.

As for the future, Stephanie hopes to continue skating and coaching. She has a few colleges in mind that have good figure skating programs, particularly Miami of Ohio, which is internationally ranked in synchronized skating. If Stephanie was on the team, she would travel all over the world doing what she loves; figure skating.

(ə -măl'gə-māt') v.
to mix so as to make a unified whole; blend

the Spartan
AMALGAMATE

5c
February 13, 2004

Tiger Woods PGA Golf 2004 a flawless game

greg karidas
business manager

There is nothing better than grabbing your clubs and a bag of balls to go whack into holes. When you've got a good stroke going you can't go wrong, and you can't go wrong with Tiger Woods PGA Tour Golf 2004 for PlayStation 2. It doesn't quite offer this real life experience, but using a couple joysticks is as close as your going to get. This EA Sports game is the latest and most impressive in the series of Tiger Woods golf games. The game features a revolutionary new joystick system swing, rather than the old-school meter swing. It also has more courses, players, and features than ever.

The most impressive of these features is the create-a-golfer mode. This mode allows the user to create a golfer to compete as. The options for this golfer's appearance, equipment, and clubs are phenomenal and never-ending. The user can create their golfer's face, body type, and even control how far apart the golfer's eyes are. Once a golfer is created, the rest of that game primarily revolves around that character. The user can play several different modes in order to earn money. These earnings are used for updating the golfer's attributes, equipment, and clothing.

New courses, and Tiger's Dream course can be unlocked by defeating other golfers, both real and fictional, in the World Tour mode. This mode allows the user to travel around the world to both fictional and real courses. Courses range from the beautiful and well-known Pebble Beach, to the completely fictional Wallaby Creek.

Tiger Woods Golf 2004 doesn't have a single flaw. Everything about the game is great.

The World Tour mode is not the only mode that allows players to earn money. Other modes include traditional, arcade, real-time events, scenarios, and the actual PGA Tour season. Traditional modes include stroke play, match play, skins, and team events such as four-ball, along with many others. The arcade mode features target practice and other slight modifications to golf, such as speed golf. Real-time events are probably the most interesting and different part of the game. There are events scheduled on the calender that you can play on that day and that day only. Events include EA Sports tournaments, and golfer's birthday bashes, along with several others. Playing these real-time events not only earn your golfer money, but also gives them a gold medal. Sometimes real-time events also give an opportunity to earn new EA special products, such as gloves and shoes. After the created golfer goes through a training session with Tiger, he is given his tour card. Receiving a tour card is the first of the scenarios. Others include challenges such as chipping, putting, and wind-control. Finally, the PGA Tour season allows golfers to compete in actual tournaments played by PGA Tour golfers.

As for the graphics and actual game play behind Tiger Woods Golf, it is excellent. It is perfect for any type of gamer. From the avid golfer to the occasional golfer, anybody will find this game interesting and fun to play. The graphics are amazing both for the players and the surrounding environments. The courses look almost identical to their real-life counterparts. Minor details such as divots left behind by previous golfers and wildlife in the woods on the golf course only add to the golfing environment. The biggest complaint about most golf games are they are fun, just to slow. Tiger Woods Golf has quick load times, and the user basically controls how fast the game play is. An example of this is the ability to skip over the standard hole overviews before playing each hole. So, that rules that complaint out.

Tiger Woods Golf 2004 doesn't have a single flaw. Everything about the game is great. It will keep any gamer entertained for a long period of time, and it has extremely good replay value. Once you've bought this game, you will never need to buy another, unless a new version of this game comes out, say Tiger Woods Golf 2005.

photo / jack rozman

Big Fish, not so fishy

kasey butcher
associate news editor

One time when my dad was a kid, he was out riding his father's new French racing bicycle. Little did my dad know, his neighbor's horse was on the loose. As he passed a row of trees, the horse came galloping between them and hit my dad. The horse, my father, and my grandfather's French bicycle went flying. The horse died, my dad broke his collar bone, and the bike was destroyed. It has always seemed a little unlikely to me that my father actually "got hit by a horse riding his bicycle," but that doesn't make the story any less true.

Big Fish is a movie that focuses on the tall tales told by Edward Bloom (Ewan McGregor / Albert Finney) to his son, Will (Billy Crudup), and anyone else who will listen. Edward was confined to his bed as a child and amused himself by reading the encyclopedia. After finding an article about the common goldfish and discovering that a fish given enough space can grow to up to four times the size of a normal goldfish, he decides that the small town of Ashbury is not a big enough pond for him. He then sets out to become a big fish.

After not speaking to his father for years, Will finds out that his father is dying of cancer. He rushes home determined to find out who the man behind the stories really is. Will finds out, however, that after telling his stories time and time again, Edward became the stories whether or not he befriended a giant, met a witch, or caught the most elusive catfish in Alabama. He becomes the big fish.

Big Fish is an enchanting film. It captures the mysticism of a tall tale and adds in a little touch of sarcasm. It is the first time I have ever seen a movie capture the wonderment of childhood and of a story well told.

While being somewhat silly and lighthearted the movie deals with some pretty deep concepts as well. Who or what creates our reality? Edward told his stories so many times that they became reality. He chose who he was and created his own past and future. At the end of the movie, there was not a dry eye in the house.

This motion picture is a masterpiece. It is visually appealing, using light and color to create a dream like setting for the tall tales and a starkness to reality. The cinematography creating a definite line between the two until the end when the line is slightly blurred as fantasy becomes reality.

The acting is also amazing. Both McGregor and Finney add a tongue in cheek frankness to Edward, making the character charming, if not a little crazy. Other memorable performances were given by Helena Bonham Carter who played a which and Jessica Lange who played Sandra, Edward's wife. Sandra is a vital character, a place in which Edwards fantasy and reality meet. She is the love of his life and Lange plays her to perfection.

To make a long story short, Big Fish is a smart, sweet, spectacular movie that combines childlike fantasy with intellectual depth to provide a poignant story.

I rate this movie five stars out of five for its creative story telling, beautiful visuals and good acting.

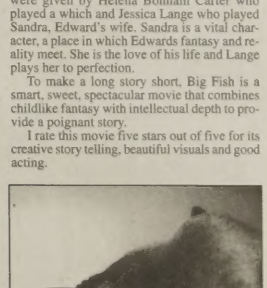


photo / kasey butcher

Above: Binky Butcher observes as Edward Bloom the goldfish swims around is in his bowl, a habitat that restricts his growth into a "Big Fish."

Puccini's, a taste of Italian cuisine

photos / tyler karina

photo / ryan raring

Above left: Puccini's offers a wide range of dishes to choose from including the lasagna shown above. Above right: The Puccini's sign is always around to greet customers as they arrive at Jefferson Pointe.

The atmosphere is average restaurant atmosphere. And why "smiling teeth"?

Our waitress refilled our drinks and brought out our food in a timely fashion.

The cuisine was great. Puccini's is one of the best joints in town for Italian food!

Above: Josh Zurawski (11) dips a pepperoni and sausage calzone into pizza sauce before devouring it. Below: Logan Braman (11) eats lasagna. The three amigos enjoyed all of their dishes while dining at Puccini's.

josh zurawski
sports editor

logan braman
designer

tyler keena
writer

The food review staff decided to continue their trend once more this issue by visiting another one of the many restaurants in the Jefferson Pointe area.

Puccini's Smiling Teeth has been an established restaurant in the Jefferson Pointe Mall for about half of a year. Puccini's has become known primarily for their popular pizza. However, they also serve other Italian specialties.

We entered Puccini's on a snowy, frigid Monday night and were immediately greeted by a host with some of the most beautiful "smiling teeth." We were seated and then we proceeded to order drinks and plenty of refills while waiting for our photographer to arrive.

We finally decided to put in an order for an appetizer to entertain our appetites while we were waiting. Our waitress suggested the cheese garlic bread, which was promptly served. This basket contained six pieces of small slices of the delicious bread. Although the bread was tiny, it was also fairly inexpensive and probably worth the money.

After the bread was devoured, we kept waiting for our photographer. During this wait, the service was pleasant, and the refills were plentiful and brought to our table in a timely manner.

Also during this wait, we discussed the "Smiling Teeth" portion of the restaurants title and the purpose it served. What are smiling teeth? Can teeth really smile? These questions remained unanswered through the night and still are a mystery to this day. But we didn't let this mystery bother us the rest of the night.

After our second wait, we decided to move on once more and place our orders for our main course. We ordered a large pizza (half pepperoni, half sausage and mushroom), a pepperoni and sausage calzone, and an a-la-carte order of lasagna.

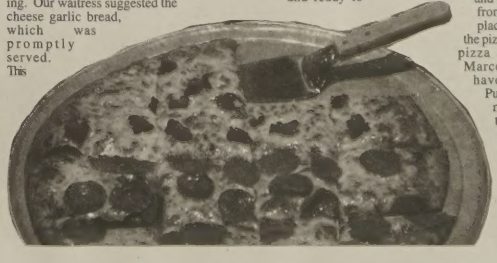
We waited only about 7-10 minutes for our entrees before they were served. At this point, we were done waiting for our photographer and ready to indulge ourselves in the feast that our waitress had laid before us (with "smiling teeth" of course).

The pizza was tremendously large and also quite scrumptious. The pizza probably would have been enough to feed all three members of the food review, but we still wanted to try some of the other dishes that Puccini's had to offer.

The sausage and pepperoni calzone was also a pretty delectable dish. The calzone also included two cheeses and a pizza sauce for dipping. If you want a change of pace from your normal pizza, we suggest the calzone. Puccini's offers several calzones on their menu, but there is also the create-your-own option (which we chose) that is not on the menu but is available upon request.

The lasagna was not quite as tasty as the other two entrees and was our least favorite. It was only an average dish but still fairly good. However, we recommend the pizza or the calzone over the lasagna.

After stuffing our faces and chewing with our "smiling teeth," we now knew why the pizza at Puccini's is so well-liked. The price is affordable and it is a good change from the normal pizza place. In our opinion, the pizza is better than the pizza at Pizza Hut or Marco's and if you haven't ventured to Puccini's, we recommend it with three thumbs up and three sets of "smiling teeth."



Left: the three amigos thought that Puccini's pizza was quite a delicacy.

the Spartan
ADVANTAGEOUS

(ad van-taj s)
adj. affording benefit or gain; useful

England: A quick glance

Official name: United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Capital: London
Anthem: "God save the Queen"
Population Estimate (from 1998): 58,970,119
Official Language: English
Other languages: Welsh, Scottish Gaelic
Largest Cities: Birmingham, Leeds, Glasgow
Currency: Pound Sterling
Form of government: Constitutional monarchy
Head of state: Monarch
Head of government: Prime minister
Legislature: Bicameral legislature

> "I traveled 5693 miles in 33 days, and ended up seeing and doing far more than I had proposed, including beginning to discover the roots of my family, which go back into North Yorkshire more than 400 years"
> -Steve Clough

> "In a true miracle story, within forty-five minutes of my last hour on my last day of the family research project, I found my family still alive. It was a moment of a lifetime."
> -Steve Clough

A quest for family:

English teacher Steve Clough travels to England as part of Lilly Summer Creativity Grant to research family genealogy

1: This house is C.S. Lewis's home, the Kilns. It was built in 1923. 2: Pictured is a typical English thatchie. This particular L-shaped thatchie is the Longworth. 3: Pictured above is one of the numerous beaches in England. 4: This picture features Clough's ancestral parish for more than 350 years. 5: The Canterbury Cathedral views are captured on film. 6: This castle, known as Mad Ludwig's Neuschwanstein Castle, is located in Bavaria.

manasee atre
copy editor

Painstakingly, they study every piece of information. They peruse books, interview people, and take trips around the world to investigate their findings. Sometimes, they reach a dead end, and they must begin a new search. Sound like a detective movie? Actually, this scenario also describes common events that occur to people who are researching their family genealogy. English teacher Steve Clough spent five weeks in England and Scotland this past summer in order to study his family genealogy.

"I went [to England and Scotland] as part of a Lilly Summer Creativity Grant, my second," Clough said. "My focus was to complete a family research project which I have been working on for eight years, hoping to locate living relatives of the family we lost when my great-grandfather Joel came to the U.S. in 1871, 134 years ago."

While working on the family research project, Clough was able to find three living relatives in Great Britain.

"In a true miracle story, within forty-five minutes of my last hour on my last day of the family research project, I found my family still alive - English cousins, Ethel and Mary, plus Mary's daughter Caroline - ancestors of my great-grandfather's little sister Isabella," Clough said. "It was a moment of a lifetime."

In addition to working on his genealogy project, Clough also found time to tour Europe. While he spent the majority of his site-seeing time touring the north and southwest areas of England and the Highlands and Borders of Scotland, he also visited other European countries.

"I spent a week in my family's ancestral home, North Yorkshire and Lancashire, in the north, and then a week in the southwest, Oxford area," Clough said. "Then we crossed onto the Continent and saw eight countries in two weeks, totaling about 6000 miles. The last week of my trip was back in Britain, during which I toured the Highlands and Borders of Scotland."

Clough saw many different people and sights while he was in Great Britain.

"For some of the trips I just toured, and for others I was located a week at a time in an English or Scottish village, so that I might get to know the history and people of that place," Clough said. "I visited the following sites: Preston and Lancashire, the Yorkshire Dales, Durham Cathedral and Durham University, London, including Richard III at the Globe Theatre, Oxford, including the university and C.S. Lewis' home and grave, plus great J.R.R. Tolkien sites. In Scotland, I toured Dunfermline, Dunkeld, Iona, Edinburgh, and the Borders."

Clough most enjoyed his travels though Iona.

"My favorite location is Iona, Scotland, because it is a great illustration of a great theme: "No Small People, No Small Places," Clough said. "The Western world was changed by a monk named Columba who went into exile on Iona in 563 A.D., dying there in 597."

Clough's trip this past summer was his seventh trip to England. He first traveled to the country in 1995.

"My first trip [to England] was as a result of my first Lilly Grant in 1995, when as a 45-year-old English Literature teacher I went to study the connection between Arthurian Legend and the ancient Celtic people," Clough said. "I traveled 5693 miles in 33 days, and ended up seeing and doing far more than I had proposed, including beginning to discover the roots of my family, which go back into North Yorkshire more than 400 years."

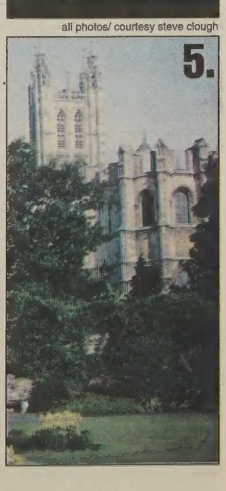
Clough's love for England is closely tied to his English heritage and dates back to his childhood.

"All of my life I have loved the stories, authors, novels, poetry, and drama from England and Scotland," Clough said. "I never knew why until I began to discover the "soul connection" which comes from my family's origin in that place. I have since learned that in addition to being English on my father's side, I am Scottish (Clan Campbell) on my mother's--and further, that the Clough side is of Celtic ancestry. These facts don't change the world, but do help our family to understand a good deal about ourselves that we didn't know before."

Clough says that his trips to England have enriched his life and teaching.

"Now instead of my [teaching] knowledge being theoretical, from a page in a book, mine is experiential," Clough said. "I have been there and done that - 20,000 miles of driving on the left, eating with and talking with these people and learning about their world. I have traveled a huge area of Britain, Ireland too, and have learned about the history of the people and their culture, making what I do in the classroom very different from the way I approached my subject matter prior to my trips. The time there has transformed my work here, and I have developed lifelong friendships with people in both England and Scotland."

all photos/ courtesy steve clough

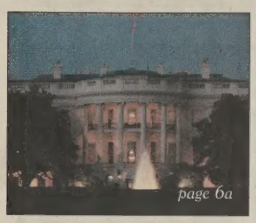


the SPARTANA

Homestead High School 4310 Homestead Rd Fort Wayne, IN 46814

Volume 34 Issue 6 March 12, 2004 Contact us at TheSpartana@hotmail.com

News A



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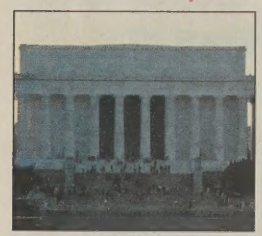
Students visit the Capital



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Preparing for the race

Entertainment C

Deeper Connections

page 6a

"We spent a great deal of time talking about how to help one another and how to help students. Obviously, we did not always agree, but we talked about our issues ... Everybody benefited."

Dr. Brian Smith

Contract negotiations result in teacher raises

manasee atre
copy editor

A new contract for teachers, administrators and non-certified personnel for the 2003-2004 and 2004-2005 school years was passed unanimously by the district board of education on March 9. The pact was the result of negotiations between the Southwest Allen County Teachers Association (SACTA) and the corporation's administrative team. The new contract includes a 3% increase in employees' salaries in both the school years covered by the pact. Retroactive checks covering the first seven months of the school year will be delivered to teachers within the month.

"There was a lot of hard work on both sides for the contract. I am pleased to recommend this to the board," Superintendent Dr. Brian Smith told board members.

Along with an increase in salaries, the new contract includes provisions for a $500 stipend to be paid to all new regular contracted teachers hired in the 2004-2005 school year and provisions for a .005 addition to the Master Salary Schedule Index for teachers with 25 years or more of experience beginning with the 2004-2005 school year. In addition, the new contract includes some changes in policy language. For example, the contract now includes a non-discrimination clause. This clause states that the school district agrees to abide by all state and federal laws regarding teacher issues. Although the school district has always done this, it is now formally stated in writing. The contract also contains a language clause with says that department chairs may be consulted in matters of teacher effectiveness.

Prior to the contract approval on Tuesday, the teachers in the school district worked without a contract this school year.

"Generally, you are supposed to have the contract worked out before the beginning of the school year," SACTA Treasurer and the building's representative Diane Rice said. "However, the state was very vague about funding, and there were decisions to be made that had financial implications, mainly the referendum, so the negotiations were pushed back."

The negotiations began in December after the referendum was passed by voters in the November election. The teachers' association was represented by President Denny Sprunger, Vice President Mike Gorman, and Rice. The administration was represented by Superintendent Dr. Brian Smith, Business Manager Jim Coplen, and Human Resources Director Phyllis Davis. SACTA and the administrative team sets aside days throughout the calendar for the give and take necessary to draft the new contract.

"In some school districts, the administration and the teachers' union members work for a few hours after school each day to put together a new contract," Rice said. "However, we decided to just devote a couple of days for writing the new contract."

The teachers' union is generally pleased with the new contract, according to Rice.

"I am happy with the new contract," Rice said. "The administration had a goal for us to be the highest paid teachers in the county and now we are. However, there are some things that we did not get that I wish we had gotten. For example, we asked for additional money for coaches and we did not get that. However, that is just the nature of bargaining. You can not get everything."

Both sides agree that negotiations went smoothly.

"The bargaining process was a particularly positive experience," the district's superintendent said. "We spent a great deal of time talking about how to help one another and how to help students. Obviously, we did not always agree, but we talked about our issues ... Everybody benefited."

Superintendent Dr. Brian Smith makes a point during the contract negotiation meeting photo/jack rozman

Spring musical opens this May

The story of a man and his family's survival during the French Revolution

rohith iyer
associate copy editor

The spring musical *Les Miserables* will be held on May 7-8 and 14-15 in the school auditorium. The play includes a cast of 46 members who were chosen after open try outs.

The story of *Les Miserables* is centered around Jean Valjean, a man who serves twenty years in jail for stealing a loaf of bread. He comes out of jail and eventually turns his life around and succeeds, while helping his sister and her child. However the drama in the story revolves around the survival of his family, as they are entangled in a French Revolution. The story ends with Cosette, Valjean's niece, and Marius Pompercy, a French youth, getting married.

The set of for the musical will be the largest ever used at the school. This is due to a barricade battle-scene.

The musical includes the popular tunes *Bring him Home, Castle on a Cloud, I Dreamed a Dream, One Day More,* and others.

Ed Koczergo, drama instructor, will direct the musical.

"I felt that if I did not take a shot at doing it (*Les Miserables*) this year, I did not see us doing it down the line," Koczergo said. "We have a strong group of men this year, so I thought that with the talent present, this was the year to do this play."

Tom Stoffel (12) will be playing the lead role of Jean Valjean in *Les Miserables.* Other leads include Jocelyn Gauthier (11) playing Eponine, Bridget Pearson (12) as Fantine, and Matt Anderson (11) as Thenardier.

"This is the largest musical we have done," Stoffel said. "There are 46 members in the cast on stage, not including the pit orchestra. It is going to be a great show. Vocally, this is the most powerful cast I have worked with."

Brian Quigley (12) will be playing the role of Javert in *Les Miserables.*

"This is the first musical where I have had a principal role," Quigley said. "The grounds that we have to cover in terms of the music before performance are very substantial."

Athletic teams prove strength at state

Left: Phil Tapp (11) prepares for his swim at the state competition. The team finished second. Right: Alex Cruse (10) dances in the team's pom routine. The team's lyrical routine placed first in state.

MARDI GRAS!

Where: Hilger's Farm Market

When: Friday, March 26

New rules adopted by Student Government:

No guests will be accepted under the ninth grade
Guests must be under 21 years old
Each student is allowed one guest from another school
Identification is required. Proper identification includes a drivers license, an ID card, or an athletic pass

the Spartan
PITHY
(pith´e) adj. concisely meaningful

Spartan Briefs

Medical Conference

John Greco has been chosen to take part in "Molecular Medicine In Action," a conference at Indiana University School of Medicine in Indianapolis. Forty eight students were chosen from over 230 applicants. The conference will provide participants with hands-on experience with the techniques used in biomedical research.

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Parent teacher conferences will be held on Thursday, March 25 from 12:00 noon to 8:00 p.m . The deadline for returning the conference sign ups was February 27. Parents who missed the deadline can e-mail teachers at (teacher's first initial, then last name) @sacs.k12.in.us so that they can request a conference or share information via e-mail.

National Merit Finalists

Ryan Adams, Manasee Atre, Raymond Keller, Kelly Keuneke, Gene Kim, Thomas Landrigan, and Michael Slosson have all been selected as finalists for the National Merit Scholarship program. The National Merit Scholarship program is based off of PSAT scores during students' junior year. This honor speaks very highly on the students' academic aptitude and achievement.

C.A.R.E. Shop

The Special Education class is participating in a national project known as "Beanies for Baghdad." The United States military is going to hand out about 500 beanies a week to children residing in Iraqi. The CARE shop will collect gently used or new beanies, school supplies, or small stuffed animals the week of March 22 to April 2. Collection boxes will be present in the cafeteria. The Special Needs students will be packing the items and mailing the beanies to the military. For any questions concerning the project contact Tanya Hack at 431 - 2870.

Girls and Boys State

Junior boys and girls who are interested in studying and learning more about federal, state, and local government and would like to meet and work with other juniors from across Indiana should pay close attention to the announcements for information about State.

Some information regarding the State conferences will also be kept in Student Services. Schools from across Indiana choose representatives for both Boys' and Girls' State. Applications for the programs will be available in Student Services soon. After the forms are filled, a committee of teachers, counselors, and administrators will interview candidates for both programs.

Last year Homestead sent five boys and two girls to their respective conventions. Local American Legion Posts pays for the all the expenses for students from Homestead except for transportation two and from Indiana State.

Hospitality Club

Students interested in exploring careers in the hospitality industry including hotel, restaurant, and tourism management are encouraged to sign up for the Hospitality Club. As an affiliate of the IPFW HTM Club the Hospitality Club gives students a chance to connect with chefs and managers as they participate in the IPFW Dinners Series and other community events. The IPFW students in the Dinners Series class are responsible for designing the menus and themes with the chef, preparing meals and table service and serving at the events. Member of the Hospitality Club had the opportunity to assist in various ways.

Homework Hotline

The Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology's Homework Hotline offers a free tutoring service in the area of math and science for Indiana students in grades 6 - 12. Students can call the toll free phone number 1-877-ASK-Rose from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Sunday through Thursday. The Homework Hotline tutors help students work though tough problems and improve problem solving skills.

Office Depot

Since 2000 the Office Depot has donated money to schools across America. When students and families participate in Office Depot's "5% Back to Schools" program, Homestead is given 5% of the proceeds, for all eligible items. Homesteads unique school identification number is 70035990 if students and families use this code when purchasing items from Office Depot, Homestead has the ability to receive credits for free supplies at the store.

Earth Fest

On May 13 student government has planned their second annual Earth Fest. On that day student government has planed fun and games such as an ultimate frisbee contest, live bands, and more. Earth Fest is meant to celebrate the earth, and help raise awareness for problems such as pollution.

Calendar

3.13 JCL State Convention at Indiana University 3.17 College Fair in the Cafeteria 6-7:30 p.m. 3.19 End of the third nine weeks 3.20 Speech Meet at North Central High School 3.22 Just Because Weeks begins 3.25/26 Half days 3.27 Class Royal Classic Showcase 8 a.m. to 12 a.m.

Friday Night Fever

Dance marathon raises $30,000 for athletic boosters

caitlin myers
writer

Twenty four hours of dancing, catered-in food, prizes, and games is probably not on a typical weekend agenda. On February 27 through February 28, however, it was for 150 Homestead students.

The Dance Marathon lasted from 8:00 p.m. Friday, February 27th to 8:00 p.m. Saturday February 28th. In order to participate in this event, each couple needed to raise a minimum if $300. All the money that was raised will go to Homestead Athletic Booster Club.

"I only got about four hours of sleep. So, I was really tired at the end of Dance Marathon," Erica Merrifield (9) said.

The theme of the dance was "Shake it Like a Salt Shaker". During the twenty four hours, the dancers participated in games such as "Monkey On Your Back" and "Mingle, Mingle". Another favorite game was the limbo. During Saturday, the dancers also had an opportunity to learn how to swing dance by two instructors. Another special guest taught the dancers a hip-hop routine later that day.

"My favorite game was definitely Monkey on my Back," Merrifield said.

The participants enjoyed the food that was catered-in by restaurants like Outback, Flanagan's, Marcos Pizza, Pizza Hut, Casa, Burger King, Arby's.

There were four main prizes that were presented to some the dance participants. The couple that collected the most money won $400. The first prize winners were Ali Matheis and Sally Shinabarger. The second place prize was $300, and the winners were Stephanie Mitchell and Laura Summers. Third place prize was $200, and the winners were Eric Merrifield and Brittany Hamrick. Another prize was $100 for having the most number of sponsors, and the winners were Ali Mathies and Sally Shinabarger. "The Salt Shaker Award" was given to the best guy dancer and the best girl dancer. The guy who won was David Stehlik (11), and the girl who won was Jenna Salamone (11).

"It was not tough trying to stay awake because everyone around me had so much energy," Brittani DeJong (9) said.

Another main event on Friday was the 3 on 3 Midnight Madness. The winning team consisted of Steve Clark (10), Travis McGee (10), Connor Meeks (9), and Jay Coplen (12). This team then went on to play the Faculty Team and lost by two points.

Into the 23rd hour, the dancers gathered together for a slide show and presentation of the awards. At the end, the grand total was announced and it was a little over $30,000, the highest in Homestead history.

"I had a blast at Dance Marathon," DeJong said. "Of course I am going to do it again."

photo courtesy larry buchanan

Taylor Klein (9) dances with Larry Buchanan (9) at Dance Marathon. The theme of Dance Marathon was "Shake it Like a Salt Shaker," and during the night, dancers played games such as "Monkey On Your Back" and "Mingle, Mingle".

ISSMA competitions held in February, March

dillon kimmel
designer

Every February and March, the Jazz Band and individuals travel to the ISSMA Solo and Ensemble Contest that is held in Indianapolis. Jazz Band travels as a group, performing several pieces for a panel of judges. In the Solo and Ensemble Contest, individuals or ensembles perform one piece for the same judges, competing for a first, second, or third division rating, first being the best.

John Blevins (11), a trumpet player in the band, was one member of the Jazz Band that traveled to Indianapolis on March 5.

"I thought we did really well preparing," Blevins said. "We prepared every day and every time we did it, it sounded better."

The Jazz Band performed three pieces at ISSMA. The competition was held on Saturday March 6. Those included were "On Green Dolphin Street," "Straight Ahead," and "Switch in Time."

They arrived in Indianapolis around 5:15. After warming up, they made their way into the performance room where they put on a great show, taking a first division rating.

"We were really happy with what we accomplished," said Blevins.

John Blevins also attended the ISSMA Solo and Ensemble Contest. He performed in an Ensemble with several other Band members. He participated in two different competitions, both with a different ensemble. They began practicing for it at the end of last semester, first picking their songs and then practicing them to perfection.

One of the ensembles John participated in was a brass quartet which he has been a part of for a year. They received a Division I rating, the highest possible. Also, because they participated in Group One, they are eligible to participate in the State Competition.

John also received a Division I rating in his other ensemble, consisting of 11 members. They will participate in the State Competition.

The piece he performed were written by Gabrieli. It had three names: Canzon, Duo Decimi, and Toni. In all, 46 participants in the ISSMA contest received first division ratings. Many students from Homestead participated in either the solo or ensemble contest and several brought home a first division rating. In all, the band was proud of themselves on their performance. Their first division rating was only one of many received in past years. In the Solo/Ensemble Competition, Homestead had a strong showing, and the future looks bright for the Homestead band program.

JCL prepares for state competition

photo I manasee atre

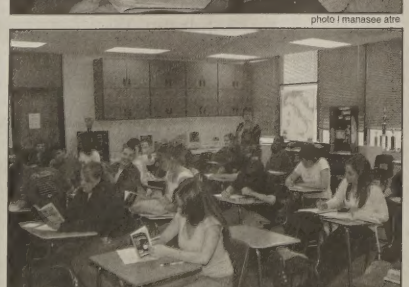


photo I jack rozman

Top: Sarah Sorenson (12) studies for the Latin conference this weekend. Bottom: Kathy Adair's level II Latin class studies for a test.

katie corson
writer

When most students think of foreign languages, Latin is not normally the first language that comes to mind. Many people today view Latin as a dead language, even though it is still a large part of not only English, but languages all over the world as well.

"I do not think Latin is a dead language at all," Emily Kensinger (11) said. "Just because people do not speak it, does not mean it is dead."

Kensinger has been a part of JCL (Junior Classical League), more commonly referred to as "Latin Club," for five years. Unlike other foreign language clubs at Homestead, students taking Latin can become a part of JCL as early as seventh grade. Kensinger was elected co-president for this year, and is enjoying the position very much.

"My older brother and sister were a part of JCL for a long time, so I have kind of been around Latin for quite a while," Kensinger said. "Also, Latin really appeals to me."

Like other Homestead students, JCL members enjoy having a good time together, but it is not all fun and games. JCL participates in Latin competitions called Certamen, which is Latin for contest or competition, during the year.

"March 13 and 14 is our two day conference," Kensinger said. "At state, clubs compete in more than just Certamen, we have academic competitions as well."

So far this year, Latin students in Certamen have competed in two competitions. In a Certamen competition, teams of three students compete answering questions about Latin grammar, as well as Roman history and daily life. It is very similar to a Jeopardy. It requires students to have a strong understanding of both the language and those who spoke it.

Academic competitions are set up a little differently though. Students are questioned on the same subjects as Certamen, but they compete individually and must take at least two written academic tests before competing.

"At state, everyone has to take a total of ten written tests; five the first day, and five the second," Kensinger said. "Also, even though you compete individually, how well you do determines how many points you earn for your school."

Points can be earned throughout the year, as well as during the only competition; state. After state, the school with the most points, wins a sweepstakes and is awarded a trophy. The school houses the trophy until next year's state competition when it is then pasted on to that year's winning school.

"I have made a lot of friends through JCL, it's how I met my best friend," Kensinger said. "I know the competitions can sound intimidating at first, but it's not that bad. If someone was interested in joining JCL, but a little unsure, I would advise them to come to just one meeting and see for themselves. They may be missing out on something they would really enjoy. One meeting is all it takes."

Speaking at state

Members of the speech team qualify for the state compitition held in Indianapolis on March 26 and 27

thao ngo
writer

On February 28, the Homestead Speech team competed at Norwell. On March 6, the weekend after the Norwell competition, the team competed at IHFSA North Central Sectional.

"The competition was tough at sectional," Tina Yang (11) said.

Homestead took third overall in the Sectional. Allison Cosbey was the sectional champion in broadcasting.

On March 13, Tina Yang (11) and Sangeev Balamohan (11) will be competing next at the NFL District Solo at Plymouth.

"The season is winding down rather quickly, so the only people going are those dedicated to the team," Yang said. "With that in mind, I believe that we are going to be tough competition."

On March 27, the Homestead speech team will be at IHSFA State Finals (at North Central High School, Indianapolis). Several people on the team have advanced on to compete at the State competition.

Those who are state qualifiers are: John Greco (11)- Humorous Interpretation, Sushmas Jonnalagada (11)- Oratorical Interpretation, Emma Farnsworth (9)- Original Performance, Sanjeev Balamohan (11) and Puja Parikh (9)-Foreign Extemporaneous, Allison Cosbey (12) and Bryan Lufkin (12)- Broadcasting, and Pratheek Bhat (11), Neil Shah (11), and Pragya Sharma (10)- Discussion.

"We had a few new members as well as returning members, so the team has a good mix of skill levels," Yang said.

Overall, the Speech team has done exceptionally well in all the competitions they have partaken in during this season.

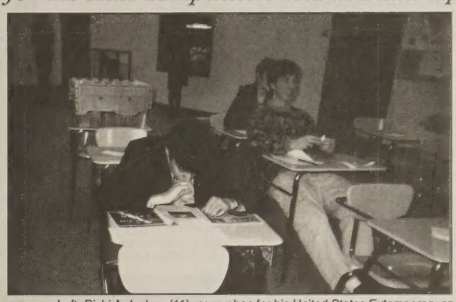
"I think the season went well," Yang said.

The Speech Team banquet is on March 30 at 6:30 p.m. at Homestead High.

State Qualifiers

The following students will be competing on March 26 and 27:

Puja Parikh (9)
Emma Farnsworth (9)
Pragya Sharma (10)
Neil Shah (11)
John Greco (11)
Sanjeev Balamohan (11)
Sushma Jonnalagadda (11)
Pratheek Bhat (11)
Allison Cosbey (12)
Bryan Lufkin (12)



photos / javed sayed

Left: Rishi Ardeshna (11) researches for his United States Extemporary speech. Participants in extemporary choose topics and are then given thirty minutes to write speeches on that topic. The speeches are presented to judges who rank the participants. Right: John Greco (11) gives his humor presentation in the final round of the speech meet on March 6. Greco and other humor participants portray several roles in comedic pieces.

Coach Fisher says... *Engilsh teacher Travis Fisher gives his opinion on his team's recent success and state qualification.*

"I am very proud of all of them because this is the most students we've had going to state in the past five years. Also, I'm pleased that we have a lot of juniors going. That means we'll have a good team next year."

Key Club elects new board members

alicia batchelder
writer

Elections for Key Club's Executive Board were held at the end of February. Several positions were filled through a nomination and election process held by the organization.

Key Club is a group in which members spend time volunteering in the community. Board members meet during the week to discuss possibilities and new projects that have become available.

"I enjoy volunteering, and I felt that Key Club would be a great chance to get more involved in the community," newly elected president John Greco (11) said.

The Executive Board is involved behind the scenes of the club, as well as being leaders during each Key Club meeting. They are in charge of preparing for each meeting and finding out about new projects to get members involved in.

As well as getting the group meetings put together, some of the members of the board do more projects individually.

"I plan to help out at Lutheran Hospital and the National Multiple Sclerosis Society," said Greco.

Some of the board members have specific duties that they are responsible for.

"I am responsible for collecting funds from the club through dues," this year's public relations offer Rachel Mensah (12) said. "Every volunteer must pay their dues in order to become an official Key Club member. I am also in charge of many of the fundraisers we put together."

"I help the club by keeping track of hours," current Technology Head Angie Meruani (12) said.

The Key Club is a group of students that spend their time helping others and volunteering for those in need.

"I would recommend Key Club to anyone looking to get involved in the community while having fun at the same time," Mensah said.

New Board members

President- *John Greco (11)*
Vice President- *Javed Sayed (10)* ***Secretary-*** *Suhasini Bhargava (11)* ***Treasurer-*** *Nick Kaserouski (10)* ***Senior Rep-*** *David Gehrig (11)* ***Junior Rep-*** *Paul Gilbert (10)* ***Sophomore Rep-*** *Undecided* ***Bulletin Editor-*** *Tanvi Chattiawala (10)* ***Key Club Tech-*** *Nate Mensah (10)*

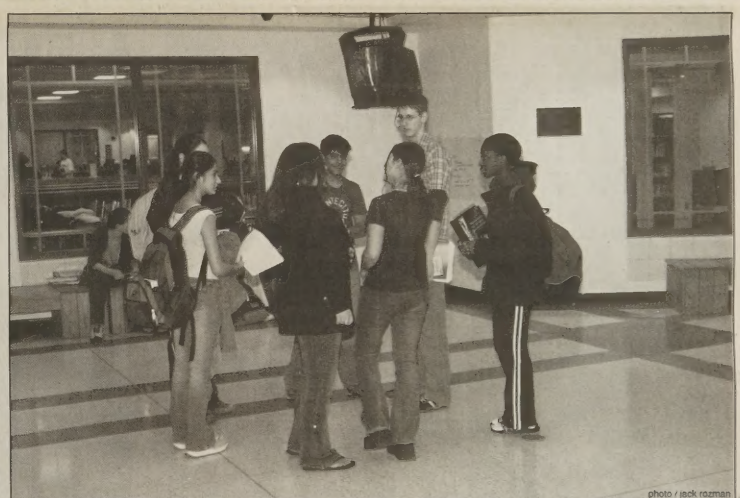
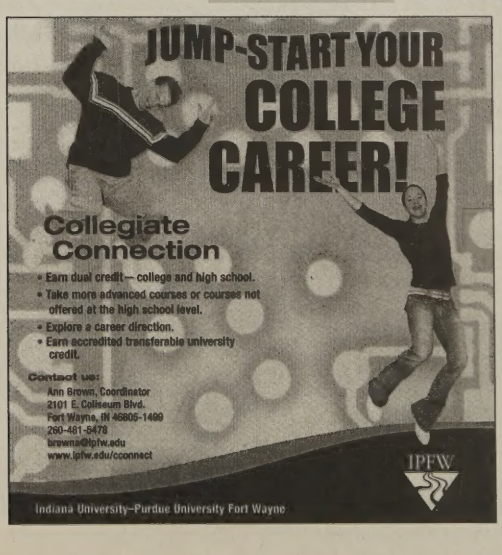


photo / jack rozman

Members of the Key Club Executive Board socialize before a meeting. The board meets Tuesdays after school to plan Key Club events and projects.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Indiana University–Purdue University Fort Wayne

College Fair
Wednesday, March 17
6:00-7:30 pm in the Cafeteria and Commons
Visits from
*financial aid organizations
*armed forces *colleges
$200 scholarship for an attending Junior or Senior

the Spartan
INTEGRATE

(in ti-grat) v. To join with something else; unite

March Of Dimes: helping those who can not help themselves

Key Clubs across the United States join together to raise money to help children born prematurely

matt anderson
designer

Once again, April is approaching, and with it has come Walk America's March of Dimes, the six mile walk that supports research and innovative programs that help prematurely born children. Once again, Key Club and other groups have come together to raise money for this respected ground-breaking national program.

In its BEEP year of participation, the Key Club has set its goals high. They are looking to raise $1,500 for the event and have high turnouts for the walk. The actual walk for the Fort Wayne division will be held on Saturday, April 24th.

All students that donate and participate in the raising of money will be invited to walk for at least a portion of the six miles. To raise the money, they are planning to have students, faculty, and community members sponsor them. They also are going to sell different items at lunch and put the proceeds into their donation.

"Over the years the program has seen great success in its breakthroughs for helping those born prematurely."

Working to cut down premature births, March of Dimes continues to bring in results for children. The group launched their program nationally in 2003. They realize that premature birth is the leading cause of newborn death and a major cause of lifelong disability. In their pamphlets, they accredit premature birth with affecting 476,000 different babies in 2001 alone. 10,753 of those babies were born in Indiana, which was 12.2% of all babies born in Indiana. They hope to take the total number down by 15 percent by 2007.

The program has been in existence for 65 years and has chapters all over the country. Eight chapters are in Indiana, and one in Fort Wayne.

Over the years, the program has seen great success in its breakthroughs for helping those born prematurely. Their achievements span from 1952 up until today and include achievements such as developing vaccines, establishing care units such as the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU), and increasing awareness about deadly birth defects such as folic acid.

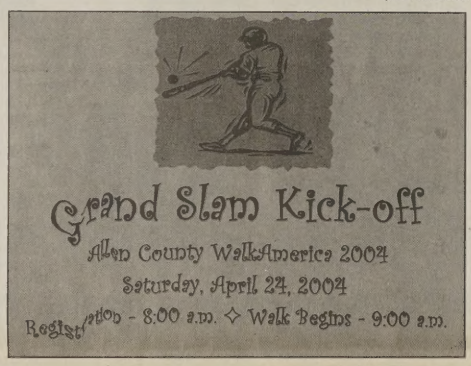
Students do not need to actually attend the walk if they want to support the cause and help Key Club reach their goal. They just have to donate to the Key Club sponsors or other groups that they know are participating.

For more information on the March of Dimes go to www.walkamerica.org or call 1-800-BIG-WALK. Fort Wayne divisions center can also be reached at 482-4201 or can be emailed at jroderick@marchofdimes.com.

photo / zach hetrick

Facts about premature birth

- *Premature birth is the leading cause of newborn death in the state of Indiana.*
- *Over one in eight children is pematurly in Indiana.*
- *Although the exact cause is unknown, the occurrence of premature birth is on the rise.*
- *The health care costs for children born prematurely is ten time more than that of babies born on time.*



Exchange student seeks home

Mateuz Swierski from Poland enrolled for 04-05

kasey butcher
associate news editor

A host home is needed for an exchange student from Fort Wayne's sister city, Plock, Poland. The 17 year-old boy, Mateusz Swierski is a scholarship winning student enrolled at Homestead for the 2004-2005 school year. A home is being searched for by American Youth USA (AYUSA). Anyone interested should call Community Service Representative Stan Podielinski at 432-2414.

Swierski, currently enrolled in Ring Jagiello High School, was selected among many Polish students for the prestigious Chapman scholarship to study in Fort Wayne. He achieved the highest grade on the written English test and on the use of oral English.

"At day break of August 3, 1492, an Italian adventurer Christopher Columbus set sail from Spain to find a new way from Europe to Asia," Swierski wrote in his essay entitled "Why do I want to go to Fort Wayne." "The country which he discovered, with consequence and obstinacy, got its independence and as a result now we can admire its great world power. It is even said that the USA is an unbeatable world leader that created a modern culture and fashion, to a high degree. Wouldn't it be wonderful to visit a country with such a recommendation. [...] "'If you don't take a risk you will not win the funny game, which is our life.' According to this sentence I always try to do something new and not be afraid of difficult challenges."

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Film festival a blockbuster

kasey butcher
associate news editor

A new tradition has been added to the artistic side of Fort Wayne's culture. Like Sundance and Cannes, the University of Saint Francis held its first annual short film festival on Sunday, February 22 at the Cinema Center downtown. No admission fee was charged and the festival met by a full crowd. The auditorium was sold out with many students sitting on the floor to allow more seating.

"The Cinema Center did a great job, their screen [and] sound set up is good," attendee Brooks Fredrickson (11) said. "Seating ran out a little before it started, my lovely girlfriend and I had to sit on the floor, but we did not mind that."

Three categories of films were featured, including walk and run cycles, live action, and animation. All the films were created and produced by University of Saint Francis Students. The run and walk cycles featured short animations of single characters walking or running. The winning film in this category was "I, Robot, Walk" by Christopher Studabaker.

The next category, Live Action, featured films that included both computer animation and acting by real people. The award for best live action film went to Stephanie Kauffman for "Beautiful Day," a film about a young girl who has had a bad day and how her dog makes her feel better.

The final category, animation, feature eleven films that used a variety of animating techniques ranging from claymation to computer animation. The runner up in this category was "Unconditional" by Patrick Riggle an Matt White. The film used stop-motion and computer animation to tell the story of a man who sorts through his past in search of unconditional love. First place went to Renee Dunham for "P.M.S.," a story about two students trying to figure out the answers on a pop quiz using their Personal Memory Systems. This short film used stop-motion clay animation.

"[I liked] the one that was hand drawn and had the guy singing and walking ("Lost" by Jeremy Sprunger)," Frederickson said. "I liked it because most of the other animations were movies with sounds added in after, but his incorporated the sound into the movie."

The award for best in show, which went to the best film out of all three categories, was presented to Brady Sprunger for "Gnometopia." The six minute stop-motion animated film centered on a Gnometologist searching for the world of the gnomes.

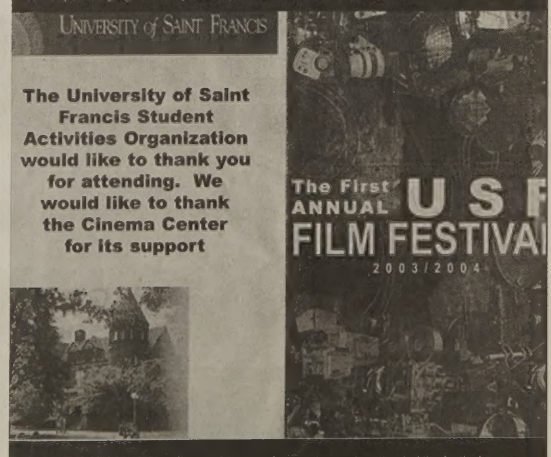
"For entertainment value, I thought Gnometopia was the best, but as in meaningfulness, [Unconditional] was the most meaningful and gratifying," Sam Adams (12) said.

Next year, the second annual USF Film Festival may be held in multiple screenings or at a larger facility in hopes of recreating the success of this year's event.

"I liked the casual atmosphere," Adams said. "At the end, there were no speeches prepared. It made me more comfortable since I was sitting on the floor anyway. I think it went very well organization wise."

UNIVERSITY of SAINT FRANCIS

The University of Saint Francis Student Activities Organization would like to thank you for attending. We would like to thank the Cinema Center for its support



The brochure shown above was passed out to those who attended the festival.

Marital maladies

After a Massachusetts Supreme Court hearing, debate about the constitutionality of a ban on same-sex marraiges heats up the political scene during the election year

kasey butcher
associate news editor

Yet another controversy has reared its ugly head during this election year. The way the nation, the government in particular, views marriage has been brought into question after the Supreme Court of Massachusetts ruled in favor of same-sex marriages.

The court ruled on Tuesday, February 3 in a 4-3 vote that a ban on gay marriage was unconstitutional. The state Legislature was given six months to adjust the marriage laws to provide rights to homosexual couples.

An immediate backlash against the ruling arose. The governor of Massachusetts, claimed he would work toward an amendment to counteract the decision. President George W. Bush also made a statement against the court's ruling.

"Marriage is a sacred institution between a man and a woman," he told CNN. "Today's decision [...] violates this important principle. I will work with congressional leaders and others to do what is legally necessary to defend the sanctity of marriage."

Since this statement, Bush has pushed for a constitutional amendment that would better define the laws of marriage and place a ban on gay marriage. To amend the constitution, a two-thirds majority vote in both houses of Congress is required. An amendment must also be ratified by three-fourths of the states (38 out of 50).

The proposal of an amendment to the constitution met a similar reaction to the Massachusetts ruling. Many officials, both Democrats and Republicans, oppose the idea, claiming that it is too large a reaction or possibly a ploy to win votes.

Senator Ted Kennedy of Massachusetts issued a report stating that, if the amendment passes, Bush will "go down in history as the first president to try to write discrimination back into the Constitution."

"We have amended the Constitution only 17 times," Kennedy said. "[It] has often been amended to expand and protect people's rights, never to take away or restrict their rights."

Others, like Kennedy, believe that the amendment is too strong of a measure. Many agree that the 1996 Defense of Marriage Act, signed into law during the Clinton Administration, is enough to cover the issue at the federal level. The act defines marriage as a legal union between a man and a woman. It also gives states the right to ignore out-of-state marriage licenses issued to homosexual couples.

Many states do not allow marriage for same-sex couples, but do allow civil unions which grant the couple many of the rights of civil marriages. The unions, however, do not entitle couples to the federal benefits of marriage, including Social Security benefits.

When Bush ran for president in 2000, he addressed the issue, stating his personal aversion to same-sex marriages, but believed that it was a matter for states to decide on their own. Now, as Bush seeks federal action against the marriages, critics believe that it may be a way to attract attention away from Bush's foreign policy or the economy.

On Thursday, February 6, Ohio became the thirty-eighth state to ban gay marriages. The bill, signed into law by Governor Bob Taft, also keeps state employees from receiving marital benefits from unmarried partners whether they are homosexual or not.

"We have amended the Constitution only 17 times," Kennedy said. "[It] has often been amended to expand and protect people's rights, never to take away or restrict their rights."

-Senator Ted Kennedy

Meanwhile, in San Francisco, Mayor Gavin Newsom allowed the county clerk to issue marriage licenses to gay couples. Newsom claimed that the state law against the same-sex marriages contradicted the California State Constitution, which does not allow for discrimination. Since February 12, more than 3,400 same-sex couples have been issued marriage licenses. Attorney General of California, Bill Lockyer, however, has taken action against Newsom's decision, issuing a petition to the state's supreme court, asking for the marriages to be stopped and previous licenses be declared invalid.

"I have a duty to defend the law," Lockyer told CNN. "I'm not here as an advocate, I'm not here to offer opinions. My job is to defend the law. The law says marriage in California is confined to a man and a woman." Lockyer, however, also told CNN that he was against Bush's proposal for a constitutional amendment.

The Supreme Court denied Lockyer's petition, but two legal suits have been filed with a court date pending.

On the local level, the issue was brought to the forefront in Bloomington, Indiana. Bloomington is the first Hoosier city to recognize domestic partner benefits and some citizens have requested same-sex marriages. Indiana Code 31-11-1-1, put into law in 1997, prohibits gay marriages and voids any same-sex marriages legalized out-of-state. A debate on the topic of a state amendment against the marriages was brought up in the Indiana state legislature, but it was decided on March 2 that there was not enough time to address the issue in this legislative year.

Legal definitions

** 1996 Defense of Marraige Act- defines marraige as a legal union between one man and one woman.*

**Civil Unions- legal union that does not entitle couples to marital benefits such as Social Security.*

**Constitutional Ammendment- requires a two-thirds majority vote in Congress and ratification by 38 of 50 states.*

**Indiana Code 31-11-1-1- prohibits same-sex marraiges and voids any such marraiges legalized outside state boundarires.*

Bush, Kerry selected as presidential nominees

Democratic nominee chosen among many at primaries held in various states

rohith iyer
associate copy editor

After months of campaigning across the nation by several candidates, the Democratic primaries are coming to a close, with many former candidates announcing their withdrawal from the presidential election of 2004. Only three of the original nine Democratic candidates remain, with Massachusetts Senator John Kerry being the probable winner of the Democratic nomination.

To date, out of the thirty primaries held, Kerry has taken twenty-five states and the District of Columbia, finished second in Vermont and South Carolina, and finished third in Oklahoma.

Kerry was the second Democrat to enter the race, announcing in December 2002 that he would form a committee for a presidential run. Kerry was first elected to the Senate in 1984, and is Vietnam War veteran. He considered a presidential run in 2000.

Other competing candidates who had previously fought for the Democratic nomination and won state primaries against Kerry included former Vermont Governor Howard Dean, retired four-star general and former supreme commander of NATO, Wesley Clark, and North Carolina Senator John Edwards.

Dean, who won is home state of Vermont, was the first Democrat to enter the race. He was the front-runner going into the Iowa caucuses, but the race tightened days before the contest on January 19. After a third-place finish in Iowa, Dean's campaign never recovered. A day after finishing third in the February 17 Wisconsin primary, Dean ended his bid for the Democratic nomination.

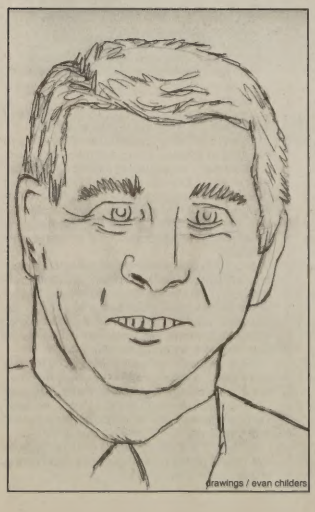
Clark entered the race for the Democratic nomination on September 17, 2003. He won the Oklahoma primary, but did not fare as well in other states. He dropped out of the race on February 11, 2004, after third-place finishes in Tennessee and Virginia.

Edwards entered the race January 2, 2003. He is a millionaire who made his fortune as a trial lawyer, and was one of the two Southerners in the original crop of Democratic candidates. His campaign received a boost from his second-place finish in Iowa and his win in South Carolina, but he was never able to catch up to Kerry. He withdrew from the race on March 3, 2004, a day after failing to win a single race on Super Tuesday.

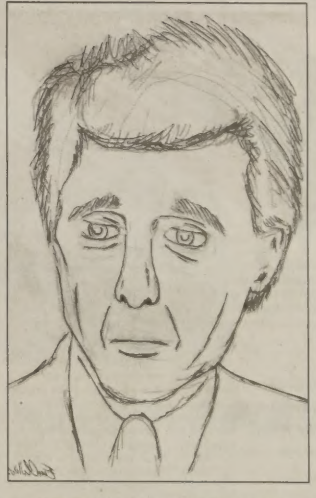
Only two other candidates besides Kerry remain; Dennis Kucinich, a congressman from Cleveland, Ohio, and reverend Al Sharpton, a Democratic activist who serves as head of the National Action Network civil rights group.

Ralph Nader, the Green Party candidate in 1996 and 2000, announced on February 22, 2004, that he will run for president as an independent candidate against the Democratic nomination and President George W. Bush. Nader received 1.6 percent of Florida's vote in the 2000 election, where Bush led Al Gore by 537 votes prior to the U.S. Supreme Court's order of statewide recounts, effectively ending the election. Many Democrats blame Nader for costing Gore the election, and fear a Nader campaign in 2004 will help re-elect Bush.

Although there are still a few remaining primaries, Kerry, who is the front-runner today, is virtually assured a Democratic nomination for President of the United States.



drawings / evan childers



Above: Democratic nominee John Kerry. Right: Rupublicannominee for reelection George W. Bush

Primary Results

**John Kerry has won 25 states and Washington D.C. , came in second in Vermont and South Carolina, and third in Oklahoma*

**Howard Dean won Vermont and came in third in Iowa.*

**Wesley Clark won Oklahoma and placed third in Tenessee and Virginia*

**John Edwards won South Carolina and came in second in Iowa*

News briefs from around the globe

javed sayed
designer

Haiti

Recently Haiti, a country in located in Africa, has erupted in political turmoil. The thrifty second rebellion in Haiti was started by factions contesting the recent elections in that country. The rebels ousted former President Aristide from his office the person taking his office is interim president is Boniface Alexandre. Already, the disarmament of rebels and supporters of former President Aristide has begun. A contingent of marines has been sent by the U.S. to help keep the peace in the capital of Port-au-Prince.

Iraq

After deadly attacks in the Iraqi capital of Baghdad and in the city of Kabul the United States has promised to step up boarder patrols in order to keep militant forces out of the country. The announcement came after U.S. intelligence tied Musab al-Zarqawi, a Jordanian-born militant, and others to attacks in Iraqi. The U.S. hopes that by stopping or decreasing the flow of boarder traffic some of the violence in Iraq will come to an end.

U.S.

Democrat John Kerry won by a land slide on Super Tuesday. Kerry won nine of the ten states on Super Tuesday and will most likely win the Democratic nomination for president. Although, he does not have a running mate yet, experts say that Senator John Edwards might run on the Democratic ticket with Kerry.

Mexico

The United States has made exceptions to the fingerprinting and photographing. The government decided to allow Mexican citizens who visit the U.S. for a period of less to visit without having to be fingerprinted and photographed. The verification of this change of policy came after a meeting of President Bush and Mexican President Vicente Fox. Part of the change in policy is due to fact that Mexico is the United State's second largest trade partner.

Saddam

In order to collect incriminating evidence on Saddam Hussein a team of U.S. Justice Department officials has been sent to Iraqi. The team consists of 50 investigators, prosecutors, and administrative staff of various Justice Department entities. The teams plans on helping local Iraqis so find information to convict former President Hussein as well as other leaders during the Hussein administration.

Venezuela

Thousands took to the streets in protest on Saturday March 6, 2004 in an attempt to oust Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez's. The march took place in order to protest the denial of a presidential recall vote. It is estimated that over 500,000 participated in the march. This relatively peaceful march contrasts with several days of rioting the week before. Opposition had turned in 3 million signatures in December in order to demand a recall vote, however the National Election Council ruled that only about 1.8 million signatures were legitimate.

Mars

The Mar's rover Spirit has found more evidence of past water activity on the Red Planet. The evidence was found while the rover was aggressively investigating a volcanic rock. The rover used an abrasion tool to go below the surface of the rook, where cracks filled with minerals were found. The minerals indicate water action familiar to geologists studying rocks on Earth.

U.S.

Martha Stewart was convicted of all four counts she faced on March 5, 2004. Stewart still faces an insider-trading suit, brought on by the Securities and Exchange Commission. Peter Bacanovic, Stewart's broker at the time was found guilty of four out of the five charges brought against him. Both could have to pay $ 250,000 for each count and be sentenced to go to jail for a maximum period of twenty years.

For local and school related news breifs see page 2a

the Spartana
EXALT

(eg-zolt') v. to glorify, praise, or honor

Pictured above, the Washington Monument is one of Washington D.C.'s tourist attractions. This summer, Landrigan will be traveling to Washington D.C. for a youth tour sponsored by REMC.

Landrigan wins REMC contest for youth tour in Washington D.C.

puja parikh
intern writer

Every year, 1300 high school students from the United States are selected to attend a youth tour, in Washington DC. The event was sponsored by the REMC, or the Rural Electric Membership Cooperative. This year, Christy Landrigan (11) was selected out of the thousands of applicants to represent Indiana. Along with the other 50 students elected as delegates from Indiana, Landrigan will get to spend one week, from June 10 to June 17, touring Washington DC.

Last year, Kristin Skowronski (12), and Manasee Atre (12), were chosen to represent the North East REMC in D.C. Kristin and Manasee left for DC on June 12, and stayed there for about one week.

"The trip was really fun," said Skowronski. "One of my favorite parts was when we drove on a bus up to Gettysburg."

This tour gives students an opportunity to travel to our nation's capital, to learn first-hand how our government functions, to learn about the complexities of today's electric utility industry, to discover the unique characteristics of cooperative business enterprise, and to meet and work with other students from throughout the United States.

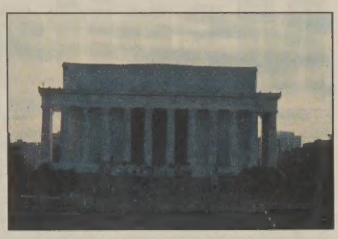
"One of the primary reasons of students going to Washington is the opportunity to meet with their Congressmen and Senators," stated Kevin Stump, South Central Indiana's REMC CEO on the REMC website. "It's a great chance to meet with other high school students from around the country and see how they can make a difference in their own communities. It's a week they'll never forget."

The Rural Electric Youth Tour is a joint effort of local electric co-ops, their statewide co-op associations, and the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.

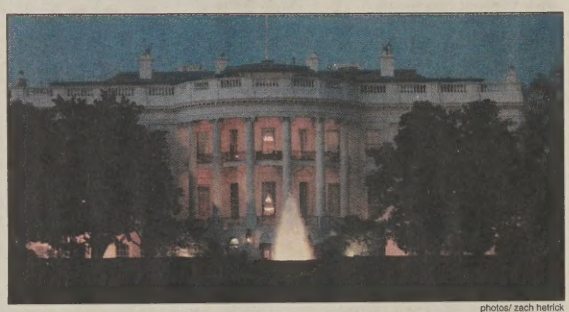
In order to become eligible for the trip, the delegates had to fill out an application answering the question: How does the REMC improve the quality of life in your community? This was supposed to be answered in a short answer format of 200-250 words. Along with the essay, applicants had to include a list of previous leadership roles. A committee of REMC employees and staff then judged the essays.

"It was really cool just to spend time with those 50 people," Skowronski said. "We became, like best friends in just a week, and I still see some of them now."

Overall, the group had a great time in DC, and Landrigan hopes to have just as much fun this year.



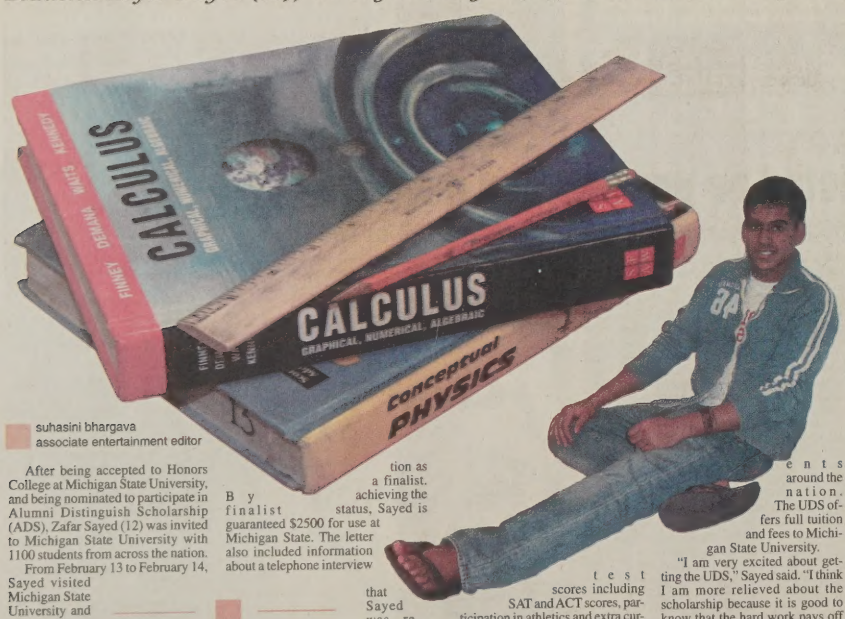
Above: The Lincoln Memorial attracts tourists on a daily basis in Washington D.C. It was built in commemoration of Abraham Lincoln. Below: The White House serves as another tourist spot within the Washington D.C. area. The White House was built between 1792 and 1800. The White House was renovated and decorated by Dolly Madison in the early 19th century. In the 1960s, the White House was refurnished under the John F. Kennedy administration. The REMC youth tour to Washington D.C. will include visits to historical monuments and memorials.



photos/ zach hetrick

Success counted sweetest

Students Zafar Sayed (12), Christy Landrigan (11), Gene Kim (12) win prestigious nominations, contests



suhasini bhargava
associate entertainment editor

After being accepted to Honors College at Michigan State University, and being nominated to participate in Alumni Distinguish Scholarship (ADS), Zafar Sayed (12) was invited to Michigan State University with 1100 students from across the nation.

From February 13 to February 14, Sayed visited Michigan State University and toured the campus. Additionally, he took a standard exam quizzing general knowledge. Lasting two hours, the exam entailed 130 multiple-choice questions about academic subjects including Greek arts, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and Trigonometry. The results from this test were used in determining which of the 1100 students proceeded onto the next stage in the scholarship process.

"It was one of the hardest exams I have ever taken," Sayed said. "They told us it was the most difficult exam we would ever take in our lives."

After the examination process had been completed, Sayed received a letter in the mail confirming his position as a finalist, achieving the finalist status, Sayed is guaranteed $2500 for use at Michigan State. The letter also included information about a telephone interview that Sayed was required to partake in.

> *"It was one of the hardest exams I have ever taken. They told us it was the most difficult exam we would ever take in our lives."*
>
> *-Zafar Sayed (12)*

Sayed's telephone interview is scheduled for March 13, 2004. The interview will be the final step in the Alumni Distinguished Scholarship.

"I am still a little anxious about the outcome of the telephone interview," Sayed said. "I am hoping that the interview goes well because it will be disappointing to come so close to getting the scholarship and then failing."

The ADS will be awarded to 15 scholars. The scholarship pays tuition and fees, and room and board. Also, the ADS pays $1,000. The scholarship is given based on G.P.A., standardized test scores including SAT and ACT scores, participation in athletics and extra curricular activities, community service, and leadership roles in school teams and clubs.

Throughout his years in high school, Sayed has been involved in numerous clubs and activities. Alongside maintaining a high G.P.A. and achieving a high SAT score, Sayed was president of the Speech Team and vice president of Key Club. During his junior year, he acted as a lab assistant for a professor at I.P.F.W. Sayed was also actively involved with the tennis team during this freshmen, sophomore, and junior years. Also, Sayed volunteered at Lutheran Hospital and worked in the Emergency Room. As another weekly community service project, Sayed worked with mentally-ill ladies at the Cedars Nursing Home.

Before applying for the ADS, Sayed had already received the University Distinguished Scholarship (UDS) from the same school. This scholarship was awarded to 20 recipients around the nation. The UDS offers full tuition and fees to Michigan State University.

"I am very excited about getting the UDS," Sayed said. "I think I am more relieved about the scholarship because it is good to know that the hard work pays off in the end."

Sayed received a second scholarship from Michigan State called the Spartan Scholarship. The Spartan Scholarship awards $4,500 annually to potential Michigan State scholars.

Lastly, Sayed was chosen as a recipient of the Professorial Assistantship at Michigan State. This accomplishment is a grant worth $2,500 per year and is given to 100 students with SAT scores over 1500. The Professorial Assistant allows students to engage in research programs with professors at Michigan State.

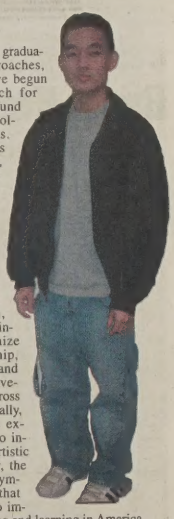
At Michigan State University, Sayed has been accepted to reside in the Lyman Briggs school of science. This residential program allows students to live and attend classes in the same building.

"You live on the same floor as all the kids that you take classes with," Sayed said.

Sayed awarded the University Distinguished Scholarship at Michigan State University

Kim qualifies as a finalist for the Presidential Scholarship

zafar sayed
news editor



As high school graduation rapidly approaches, many seniors have begun the frantic search for scholarships to fund their upcoming college educations. Gene Kim (12) has been no exception, and was recently selected to participate in the prestigious U.S. Presidential Scholars Program.

Founded in 1964 through an Executive Order by President Lyndon Johnson, the program was intended to recognize superior leadership, academic skills, and community involvement in seniors across the nation. Eventually, the program was expanded in 1979 to include students' artistic endeavors. Today, the award serves to symbolize the steps that are being taken to improve both teaching and learning in America.

For Kim, the competition came as a surprise, when a letter from the White House alerted him to his status.

"I was surprised at first by my qualification; I had no clue I'd be getting it," Kim said.

Apart from strong academic success, many past Presidential scholars have participated in numerous extracurricular activities outside of their high school walls. Kim has partaken in the Marching Band, Track team, and Academic Superbowl teams his four years at Homestead. Furthermore, Kim has been a weekly volunteer at Lutheran Hospital where he helps escorting patients in and out of the main building.

After filling out a secondary application, including standardized test scores and multiple essay questions, Kim has now moved on to the next stage of the process, competing for up to 141 scholarships nationwide. A group of hand picked private citizens (chosen by the President) will make the final decisions regarding the winners.

"It is definitely an honor to be noticed for such an award . . . but there really isn't money involved, so I wouldn't be crushed if I didn't win," Kim said.

With many universities and colleges recognizing this superior achievement however, the award is of significance.

"I think it [the scholarship] would have a positive impact on my college acceptance and performance later on," Kim said.

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One Homestead Junior or Senior student will win a $200.00 scholarship

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For list of participants please see reverse side

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Anderson University	Anderson, IN
Ball State University	Muncie, IN
Bank One	Fishers, IN
Bethel College	Mishawaka, IN
Bluffton College	Bluffton, OH
Butler University	Indianapolis, IN
Calvin College	Grand Rapids, MI
Carthage College	Kenosha, WI
Charmaine School & Model	Fort Wayne, IN
College Funding Division	Grover Hill, OH
College of Wooster	Wooster, OH
Concordia University	River Forest, IL
Denison University	Granville, OH
DePauw University	Greencastle, IN
Earlham College	Richmond, IN
Eastern Michigan University	Ypsilanti, MI
Ferris State University	Big Rapids, MI
Franklin College	Franklin, IN
Goshen College	Goshen, IN
Grace College	Winona Lake, IN
Grand Valley State Univ.	Allendale, MI
Hanover College	Hanover, IN
Harvard University	Cambridge, MA
Heidelberg College	Tiffin, OH
Hillsdale College	Hillsdale, MI
Hiram College	Hiram, OH
Holy Cross College	Notre Dame, IN
Huntington College	Huntington, IN
I.P.F.W.	Fort Wayne, IN
Indiana Air National Guard	Fort Wayne, IN
Indiana Army National Guard	Fort Wayne, IN
Indiana Business College	Fort Wayne, IN
Indiana Institute of Technology	Fort Wayne, IN
Indiana State University	Terre Haute, IN
Indiana University	Bloomington, IN
Indiana Wesleyan University	Marion, IN
International Business College	Fort Wayne, IN
ITT Tech	Fort Wayne, IN
IVY Tech State College	Fort Wayne, IN
Johnson & Wales	Providence, RI
Manchester College	Manchester, IN
Miami University	Oxford, OH
Michiana College	Fort Wayne, IN
Michigan State University	East Lansing, MI
Michigan Tech University	Houghton, MI
Northern Michigan University	Marquette, MI
Ohio Northern University	Ada, OH
Ohio University	Athens, OH
Olivet Nazarene University	Bourbonnais, IL
Otterbein College	Westerville, OH
Purdue University	West Lafayette, IN
Rose-Hulman	Terre Haute, IN
Smith College	Northampton, MA
Spring Arbor University	Spring Arbor, MI
St. Joseph's College	Rensselaer, IN
St. Mary-of-the-Woods College	St.Mary-of-the-woods,
St. Mary's College	Notre Dame, IN
Strategic Benefit Consultants	Fort Wayne, IN
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Taylor University - Fort Wayne	Fort Wayne, IN
Taylor University - Upland	Upland, MI
Texas A & M University	College Station, TX
Tri-State University	Angola, IN
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United States Coast Guard	Fort Wayne, IN
United States Marines	Fort Wayne, IN
West Point Military Academy	West Point, NY
United States Navy	Indianapolis, IN
University of Dayton	Dayton, OH
University of Evansville	Evansville, IN
University of Indianapolis	Indianapolis, IN
University of Northwestern Ohio	Lima, OH
University of Notre Dame	Notre Dame, IN
University of Saint Francis	Fort Wayne, IN
University of Southern Indiana	Evansville, IN
Valparaiso University	Valparaiso, IN
Vincennes University	Vincennes, IN
Wabash College	Wabash, IN
Westwood College of Tech.	Woodridge, IL
William Woods University	Fulton, MO
Wittenberg University	Springfield, OH
Xavier University	Cincinnati, OH

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SPORTS & VIEWS
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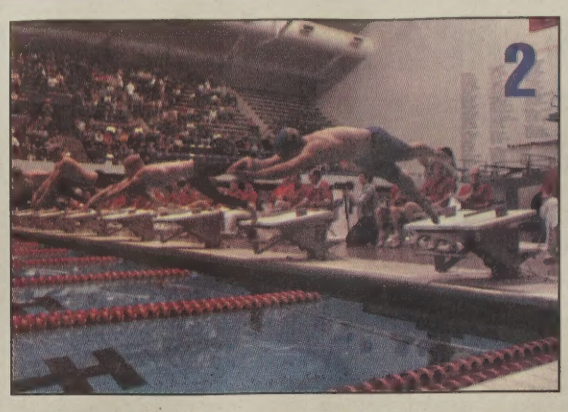
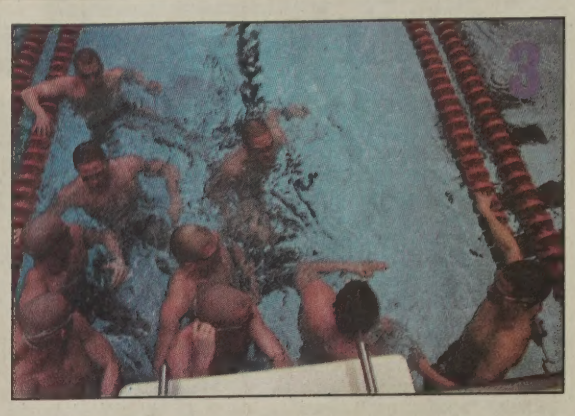
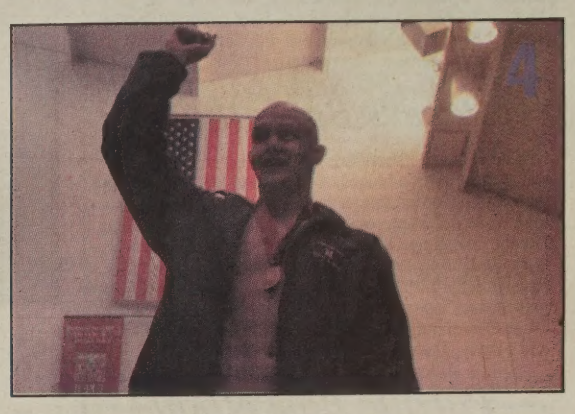
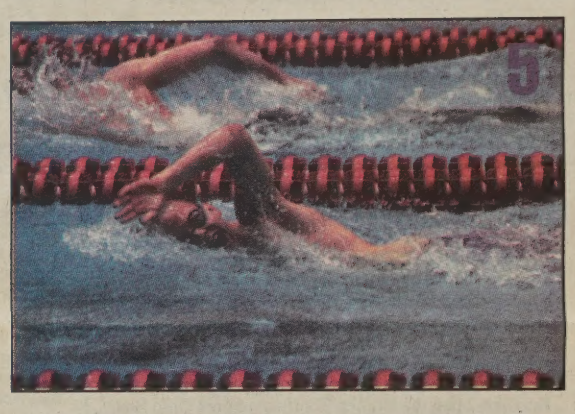
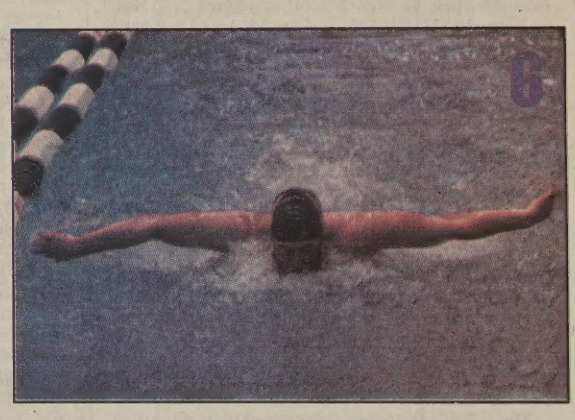
March 12, 2004 Contact the Sports and Views editor at TheSpartana@hotmail.com











every second counts

tracy kosmola
writer

The boys swim and dive team made history at the state level on Friday February 27 and Saturday February 28. The boys became the first local area team to place second to Carmel down at the IUPUI natatorium. Scoring 206 points, Homestead's highest state score ever, the team left Northridge 61 points behind in third place.

"One of the factors that contributed to our finish at state was how we improved our year-round consistency," Coach Chad Englehart said. "More boys did a better job leading up to the season than in past years. We had a higher level of confidence and a stronger belief in our abilities than last year when we placed third at state. The boys believed they were good."

After completing a season consisting of only one loss (the Carmel dual meet), the boys went on to win sectionals without much difficulty. The boys realized that the real competition would come the next weekend in Indy. Consistent with their hard work and mental attitude, the boys had many swimmers and a diver place in the top eight to score major points for Homestead. To start off the meet, the medley relay made up of Joe Colley (12), Bob Dent (10), Jonathan Ranochak (12), and Brendan O'Hara (10) placed second to Carmel. In the 200 freestyle, Andrew Hoffman (10) received seventh. Ranochak was seeded fifth in the 200 IM after preliminaries and moved up to finish third in finals. In the middle of the meet, diver Daniel Frebel (11) placed fifth for Homestead. Ranochak and Colley placed fourth and fifth, respectively, in the 100 butterfly. Improving their time from sectionals, Frebel, O'Hara, Ranochack, and Hoffman placed fourth in the 200 freestyle. In the 100 backstroke, one of Colley's strongest events, he placed second behind state record-breaker Benedict Hesen (12) from Jeffersonville. Colley also made his nationals cut at the meet. Ending the day with the 400 freestyle relay, Hoffman, Sean Miller (12), Colley, and Frebel received yet another medal for fifth place. For complete results, check the website at ihsaa.org.

When asked about whether or not his team achieved its season goals, Coach Englehart said, "Our goal is to always improve both individually and as a program. Our goals are not related to finishes as much as they are to the intangibles. Improving and increasing the number of people who understand what this sport is about and their level of commitment has always been a goal. The hardware we bring home is a validation for what we've done, but most of our goals are internal."

On top of all the achievements the boys accomplished at state, Englehart had one of his own. Every state meet all of the coaches vote for whom they believe should be Coach of the Year in the state of Indiana. This year, Englehart was the recipient. After a pep rally for the dedication of the boys' trophy and recognition for all they have accomplished, people are already talking about what they can do next year.

"This year we will graduate some senior leaders, but no one who is irreplaceable," Englehart said. "We will miss them, but other swimmers are ready to step up in their absence. I think our outlook for next year is very positive, but it has always been up to the athletes."

With only a day or two break, the majority of the boys are already back in the water training for their summer season and preparing for next year's high school season.

photos / jason walley

1: Coach Chad Englehart sits and studies his heat sheet as he watches his boys warm up for the state meet at IUPUI Natatorium in Indianapolis. Englehart was voted the Indiana Coach of the Year by fellow high school coaches at the state meet. 2: Competing in his first state high school meet, Phil Tapp (11) starts his race. 3: The swim team warms up before the state meet. The team took a large number of swimmers to the state meet, many of whom placed in the top eight in their evens. 4: Joe Colley (12) accepts his medal at the award stand for the state meet. Colley was on the medley relay team which finished second with Bob Dent (10), Jonathan Ranochak (12), and Brendan O'Hara (10), and he also placed fifth in the 100 butterfly, fifth in the 400 freestyle relay with Hoffman, Sean Miller (12), and Frebel, and second in the 100 backstroke. He also made the national cut with his time in the 100 backstroke 5: Andrew Hoffman finished seventh in the 200 freestyle, fourth in the 200 freestyle relay with Frebel, O'Hara, and Ranochak, and was part of the 400 freestyle relay that finished fifth. 6: Jonathan Ranochak finished 4th in the 100 butterfly, 3rd in the 200 IM, second in the medley relay, and fourth in the 200 freestyle relay. Left: Daniel Frebel (11) surfaces after a dive at the state meet. Frebel placed fifth in the diving competition.

Varsity struggle in sectionals with first round loss to South Side

jared baker
writer

After a sub .500 regular season, the Homestead Spartan basketball team finished the season 9-11 with a loss to the Northrop Bruins 70-55 on February 27.

"All in all, the season was not what the team wanted, but even though the regular season did not go our way, we were hoping to pull out some big wins in the post-season, "Jono Cobb (10) said.

In the preseason, many critics felt that the squad would amount to exactly what they expected. The team was very young for a varsity team, with three starting sophomores, one junior, and one senior.

"I think we could have done better, but it was a great learning experience," Grant Leiendecker (10) said.

The team believes that the program will be very solid next year and the year after. Many team members feel the team as a whole should have gone farther in the post-season competition.

"I think we're a better team then what our record shows, and I do not think we should have been knocked out of sectionals that quickly," Cobb said.

The team played Southside on March 2 in the opening round of the sectional tournament. Earlier in the season, the Spartans defeated the Archers by one point in overtime in one of the toughest wins the Spartans had this year. This was not the case for this game. The Spartans struggled throughout the game to overcome the large deficit, but to no prevail, the team lost 67-53.

"I wish we could have pulled out a couple good games and advance to regionals, but we we're in a very tough sectional," Ben Haifley (11) said.

The Homestead sectional includes top tier teams such as Snider and the most recent loss for Homestead, Northrop.

"It was a tough game, but I still think we could have won," Cobb (10) said. "I do not think the team came out with their 'A' game."

The Spartans needed their big time players to step up if they really wanted to pull out an upset last Tuesday.

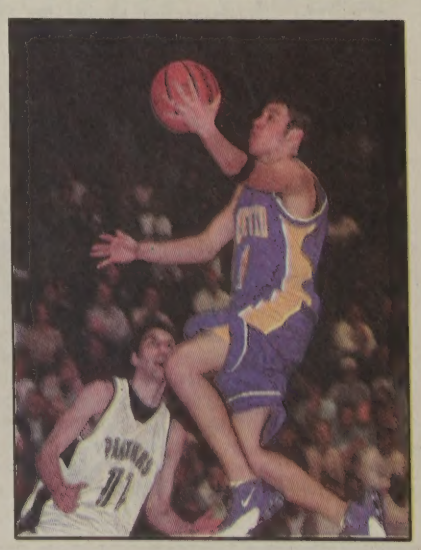
Grant Leiendecker, the leading scorer for the Spartans in the regular season, pulled out 13 points in a over all solid performance.

Taylor Hougland also pulled out an exceptional game with 14 points, leading the team through the tough loss and Andy Baker contributed 8.

Southside had 4 players in double digits, as they truly took over the game from the start. The Archers jumped out from the beginning hitting shot after shot, putting on a dominating performance.

"It's really hard to win when the other guys just will not miss," said Haifley.

The Spartans surprised many and started out strong, but by the end of the season they were sub .500. They have high hopes for next year despite this season.



Trevor Terrell (10) goes up for a lay-up during the Spartans' game against the Snider Panthers. The Spartans lost 59-63 despite 15 points from Grant Leiendecker (10). Ben Haifley (11) added 11 while Kevin Bush (12) scored 10. The Spartans finished the season 10-11 after losing to South Side on March 3.

the Spartana
DISPORT
(di - spôrt') v. to occupy oneself with diversion or amusement

Spartan Briefs

—Komet Hockey—

The Fort Wayne Komets of the United Hockey League are home stretch of their season. The Komets lead the Muskegon (Michigan) Fury for both the western conference lead and the overall standings lead by 1 point. Quad City lurks, not far behind in third in both categories. The Komets wrapped up a successful past weekend, where the Komets lost 4-3 in a shootout to the Rockford Icehogs, won 5-3 against the Port Huron Beacons, and won 4-2 against the Missouri Riverotters. The Komets next three home games are: Friday, March 12, at 8:00 against the Missouri Riverotters, Saturday, March 13, at 7:35 against the Elmira Jackals, and Wednesday, March 17, at 7:35 against the Flint Generals, where the Komets will wear special St. Patrick's day jerseys that will be auctioned off after the game.

—Pacers Basketball—

The Indiana Pacers are having a phenomenal season thus far with a record of 47-16 and lead the way in the Eastern Conference as well as the entire NBA standings by a half game over the Sacramento Kings. The Pacers' Jermaine O'Neal, who is their leading scorer, is ranked 13 in the NBA in scoring with 20.6 PPG. Ron Artest is 25th with 17.8 PPG. The Pacers next four games are: Friday, March 12 at Boston, Sunday, March 14 at Cleveland, Wednesday, March 17, vs. Portland, and Friday, March 19, vs. Sacramento.

—Purdue Basketball—

The Purdue men's basketball team has ended their season 17-12 with a 7-9 mark in the Big Ten. The Boilermakers will need a strong showing in the BigTen tourney to hopefully sway the NCAA selections committee in order for them to gain entry into the NCAA tournament. The Boilermakers open the BigTen Tourney against Minnesota on Thursday, March 11.

—Indiana Basketball—

The Indiana Hoosiers basketball team's season has come to a close after a disappointing season. The Hoosiers finished 13-14 overall and 7-9 in the BigTen. The Hoosiers will fail to make the NCAA tourney unless they become the BigTen tournament champion and will also miss out on a bid to the NIT tournament unless they win at least 2 games in the BigTen Tourney. The Hoosiers open the BigTen Tourney against Ohio State on Thursday, March 11th, and the winner of that game will play Illinois on Friday, March 12.

—NASCAR Racing—

The NASCAR Nextel circuit is underway this year and off to a buoyant start. Dale Earnhardt Jr. won the Dayton 500 while Matt Kenseth won both the Subway 400, and the UAW-Daimler Chrysler 400. The next three NASCAR Nextel Cup races are: The Golden Corral 500 on March 14, at Atlanta Motor Speedway, The Carolina Dodge Dealers 400, on March 21, at the Darlington Raceway, and The Food City 500, on March 28 at the Bristol Motor Speedway.

—IPFW Basketball—

The IPFW Mastodons completed their third division-one season this year. The 'Dons went 3-25 with wins over Bowling Green, Morehead State, and Tri-State. The 'Dons had a dismal season, only playing 12 home games. Next year the 'Dons are expected to have more home games than the had this past year at the Coliseum.

—NHL Roundup—

The NHL season is entering its last third of the season. The Tampa Bay Lightning have the overall best record in the NHL with a 39-17-7 record good enough for 90 points. Second place overall goes to the Detroit Red Wings whom have a 39-17-9 record which has earned them 89 points. Detroit holds the best Home record while Colorado holds onto the best road record. The worst team in the league is the Pittsburgh Penguins with a 15-44-6 record with only 40 points. The leagues leading scorer is Martin St. Louis, who plays for Tampa Bay and has 80 points. Mikka Kiprusoff, who plays for the Calgary Flames, leads goalies in goals against average and save percentage (1.65 and .934 respectively), while Martin Brodeur and Marty Turco, who play for the New Jersey and Dallas respectively, both lead all goalies in wins with 32.

-Intramural Basketball-

-The El Conquistadors beat Money shot 32-27 in the Intramural basketball finals. The team won 3 playoff games en route to the championship. Team members include: the captain, Andy Parker (11), Troy Bixler (12), Alex Bienz (12), Andrew Riebe (12), Tom Landrigan (12), Sam Rocke (12) Kent Bultemeier (12), Molly Kelly (12), and Kevin Bultemeier (9).

—Homestead Hockey—

The Homestead hockey team completed their successful season this past month, ending with a 12-6-1 record. The team entered the post-season with a bye from the first round. In the second round they faced the Northside Redskins. The Spartan came from behind in the game to defeat the Redskins 5-3. The Spartan then entered the final round of the playoffs, the city finals, against Northrop, who defeated Carroll 5-2 in their only playoff game. The Spartan followed up the playoffs with the State Tournament the weekend following. The Spartans, however, failed to win any of their state tourney games and wound up with an 0-3 State record.

Two Spartan wrestlers advance to state competition

Senior Richard Roelke, junior Justin Allen represent school in individual wrestling state finals

tyler keena
writer

Two Spartan wrestlers managed to advance through the postseason and into the individual state finals at Conseco Fieldhouse in Indianapolis on February 20 and 21.

Justin Allen (11) and Richard Roelke (12) both finished first in their sectional and regional tournaments to advance to semi-state competition. At semi-state, Roelke finished in second place and Allen finished in fourth. Both wrestlers had placed high enough to move on to state competition.

Richard Roelke wrestled in the 215 pound weight class for the Spartan. His record before state competition was 27-5, with only one postseason loss in semi-state.

At the state finals, Roelke won his first match 8-6. However, he went on to lose his next three matches, but he still secured eighth place in the state. Roelke's final record for the season was 28-8.

"I was really happy out [my finish at state], it was a huge achievement for me," Roelke said. "Last year I did not even make it out of sectionals, so just to do what I did this year and prove to people that I was a better wrestler than they thought was awesome."

> *"Last year I didn't even make it out of sectionals, so just to do what I did this year and prove to people that I was a better wrestler than they thought was awesome."*
>
> *Richard Roelke (12)*

Roelke's senior season ended on a high note at state with his somewhat unexpected postseason prowess. "It was probably the most meaningful thing that ever happened to me in high school at Homestead," Roelke added.

Justin Allen, the other Spartan to advance to state, wrestled in the 189 pound weight class. Allen entered state competition with a 28-3 for the season.

Despite the stellar record for the season, Allen did not place at the state meet. Allen lost his first match to the eventual state champion, Heath VanDeventer of Bloomington North, who finished the season undefeated with a 48-0 record. This loss eliminated Allen from the state competition.

"I was hoping to earn a spot on the podium, but it didn't happen this year," Allen said.

However, Allen is only a junior and has one more year to improve. "I am really looking forward to next season because there was only one junior that placed in my weight class this year, so I have a good chance of placing high next year," Allen said. "Possibly in the top two or three."

The Spartans are also looking forward to next season, although they could have some tough match-ups after losing four reliable seniors, including Roelke. However, they still are returning some experienced wrestlers and hope to improve as a team.

"We will come back with several experienced kids and could potentially get four [wrestlers] back down to state next year," Allen said.

photos / zach hetrick

Top: Justin Allen (11) and an opponent lock up arms at a home meet. Above: Richard Roelke (12) pins for the win.

Gymnastics team ranks sixth at sectionals

Junior Shelly Toth advances to Regionals in individual events

sarah kennedy
writer

Imagine working through hours of practice everyday, doing routines over and over again until they are perfect, just so that they can be performed for several minutes during competition. This is a day in the life of a Homestead Gymnast.

"We practice everyday for two hours unless we have a meet. Gymnastics helps keep us in shape, however, it is hard on your body. A lot of people on our team have injuries including their ankles or wrists and many have problems with their backs," Alicia Carter (10) said.

The Homestead Gymnastics team performed well this year. The girls first loss this season was on Thursday, February 18 to Northrop High School. The team's scores have been increasing with every meet that they compete.

"Snider and Northrop are probably our biggest rivals, because our scores are usually really close," Carter said.

The girls competed on February 25 against Bishop Dwenger High School. Bishop Dwenger is ranked first in the state.

"We performed really well, it was just a tough meet," Courtney Garton (11) said.

On February 28, the girls competed in the National Hoosier Conference. They placed second behind Carroll.

"Everyone had predicted that DeKalb would beat us, but we beat DeKalb by five points. We had a really good meet," Garton said.

The girls team hosted sectionals on March 6. The team placed 6th, with Shelly Toth (11) advancing to regional in floor and bars on March 13 at Marion High School. Next year, the team will lose two senior varsity gymnasts, Kristie Slane and Tiffany McPheeters.

"I'm really looking forward to next year. Vicki and Shelly will be returning, and I think next year's team is going to be really good," Garton said.

Opponent	Result
Elmhurst	W
Snider	L
Warsaw	W
East Noble	W
Dekalb	L
Wayne	W
Carroll	L
Concordia	L
Northrop	L
Dwenger	L

Rugby teams aim to return to state

matt anderson
designer

In its fifth year of existence at Homestead, the club sport rugby continues to offer a different kind of game for athletes who want to play competitively.

Being extremely successful in their first years of existence, the boys and girls rugby teams have continued to thrive and pull in new players from Homestead and surrounding schools.

"Because it is a club sport, girls from all around that are between the ages of 14 and 19 can play on Homestead's team," Girls Coach Leslie Eckler said. "Boys from different schools can compete on the boys team, but must be in high school because they have a men's team. This year the girls team is made up of about 80% Homestead girls, but we do have players from Canterbury and Dwenger playing for us."

The sport is unique from other contact sports like football because of the lack of any padding when playing. This and other small differences in the game attract players to the game.

"In rugby everything is more of a team effort," Katie Mahara (10) said. "With football and other sports it is more I can do this, or I can do that. In rugby, there is much more teamwork. You have to continually pass the ball backwards and hope that a teammate will be there to catch the ball. Plus, rugby is played without pads, so it adds that extra feeling of danger. You are more in tune to the idea that you or your opponent could get hurt."

Although not recognized as a varsity sport, both teams have the chance to compete in a state competition at the end of the year, if they are good enough to qualify.

"Rugby is played using a point system to determine the best teams," Mahara said. "If you win a game, then your team gets a certain number of points. If you lose a game you do not get points. Everyone adds up their points and the team with the most points plays in the finals."

The boys team last year competed in their first state competition and ended up placing fourth. They hope to make a repeat trip this year.

"We lost a lot of seniors last year, so we are trying to regroup and patch things up," Brian Quigley (12) said. "But I think that once we get outside and start working on our tackling and teamwork, we can come back together. I think once we work together for a while, we will be victorious in many of our games this season."

The girls team has made it to state a total of four years, once for every year in existence. They consider this a huge accomplishment since they have only been around for a short period of time.

"The girls have made it to state every year, which is great," Eckler said. "Some of the Indy teams we face have been in existence for 15 years. Rugby is part of their high school curriculum. So, I think it is great that we are able to do as well as we have."

The teams play as north as South Bend to as far down as Indianapolis. Both teams are hoping to start their season off well when they play in their own Snow Bowl against surrounding teams.

"I think we have a very decent team," Mahara said. "Last year, we had a lot of speed, which is important. But this year we have a lot of size, which is also important. I would say we are right up there."

(dis' -pā'shən)
n. An amusement; diversion

the Spartan
DISSIPATION

3b
March 12, 2004

Track teams off to a running start

Girls and boys track teams prepare to follow up last season's conference wins

jessica bird
writer

With snow delays postponing the begin of the boys track season, the Spartans are now getting prepared for the competition.

Last year's team finished the season with a perfect record of 10-0, not including multi-team meets. The team won first place out of eight at NHC, fifth place out of ten at sectionals, eighth place out of 30 at regionals. The team sent four record setters and Andy O'Cononor (who graduated in 2003) to state. Logan Edwards (who graduated in 2003) set three records at Homestead, including the 200m (22 seconds flat) and the 400m (48.8 seconds), and he was in the 1600m relay that consisted of Zach Kiessling (12), Matt Springer (who graduated in 2003), and Jeff Carman (who graduated in 2003), with a time of 3:21.5.

There have been three optional meets thus far. On Saturday, February 21, Homestead Varsity traveled to Anderson Relays to participate in a "practice meet."

At Anderson, four school records at this meet for Homestead were beaten. Tim Reid (11) broke the 60 meter hurdles record for the meet with a time of 8.0 seconds. Ross Shomburg (10) broke the record for the 800m run with a time of 2:16.3. Ryan Rahrig (11) broke the long jump record with a jump of 19'7". The 4X2 relay team consisting of Kennith Perkins (10), Reid, Zach Kiessling (12), and Johnathan Thomas (12) broke the record with a time of 1:38.1.

Another practice meet was held at Hunitington High School, on February 28, where no high school team was allowed to run as a team; all events were run on a no-scoring, individual basis. However, top personal scores for the Spartan runners were Kiessling in the 55m dash with a time of 6.77, and Hunter Hall (9) in the pole volt with a 11'6" jump. The third practice meet was held on March 4 at Huntington College, where again there were no team scores recorded. However, Kiessling broke the record for the 400m dash with a time of 54.68. Steve Clark (10) had a winning time of 4.51 in the mile. Andrew Sroka (12) won the shotput event with a throw of 42'3".

With the state runners from last year gone, this year's track team is going to have live up to some big expectations. The runners are doing new practice workouts to help get ready for meets.

"Preconditioning was a lot harder than it has ever been," Coach Dick Shenfeld said. "January was our hardest month for conditioning."

Every year, there is an event that the team is most successful in, and most of the years, it has been the same event.

"Sprints were our strongest event last year," Shenfeld said. "Sprints are usually always our strongest event, along with hurdles."

The incoming freshmen are another asset for a winning record.

"A couple [of freshman] will be running varsity," Shenfeld said. "They will help us [at meets]."

The vaulters have the same expectations and work ethic as the rest of the team.

"The polevaulters and the entire team are practicing harder than ever before," Hall said.

Although many upperclassmen left, the team feels prepared to grow and take on the competition with a fresh appetite for victory. The team's first regular season meet is at home against Elmhurst on March 23.

jessica bird
writer

After last year's trip to state with three relay teams and two individuals, this years' girls' track team has high expectations.

Receiving 1st place at both the Concordia Relays and NHC, last year's team had an overall record of an 9-1, with a loss to Northrop, 44.5 to 91.5. At state, the girls 4X100 team placed 12th, the 4X400 received 18th place, and the 4X800 finished 13th. While the three relay teams consisted of mostly upperclassmen, the individual state events were run by underclassmen Hannah Weide (11) and Samantha Lee (10). Weide qualified for the 400 meter dash, while Lee ran the 1600. The fact that every state qualifier was an underclassman gives the team confidence for the upcoming season.

Before the 2002 team was defeated at NHC, the Lady Spartans had a seven year winning streak. However, with a successful season last year, the team hopes that they can continue with a new winning streak this year.

The girl's team, along with the boys' team, have participated in two indoor practice meets this season. At these meets, the girls got to practice how a real meet would be. The two meets the girls participated in were the Huntington Indoor, on March 9, and The NSR Classic at Purdue, on March 12.

To help the team advance more runners to state, new measures will be taken during practice.

"[This season], we are doing new plyos and working a lot on our sprinting form. [By doing these new warm ups] I think they will help our form a lot." Liz Comer (10) said.

Having home-track advantage is something that helped the Lady Spartans be so successful last year. Every home meet was a victory for Homestead.

"Since we practice on the home track everyday, we're more used to it," Jenny Schepper (10) said. "[Having the fans at our home meets] help us when they cheer us on because they are more likely to come to a home meet rather than an away meet."

Another aspect sometimes overlooked in the whole scheme of track meets are field events, namely the throwing competitors. Coach Steve Bushong has helped the throwers through experience.

"[Coach Bushong] motivates us and teaches the fundamentals very well," Schepper said. "He has had a lot of coaching experience."

Throwing, along with all other events in track, has the same season goal for success.

"Our goal [for the shotput event] for the season is to win conference," Schepper said. "[Also], it is to have people advance to state."

Stong attitudes will help the girls' track team to reach success throughout the season.

"I think keeping that desire alive and remembering what it's like to lose," Eid said, "especially when it's that close will help us win this year."

The team's next meet is an indoor meet at the NSR Finals at Indiana University on March 20. The Spartan's first regular season track meet is against Hunting North on March 23.

Photo (Zach Hetrick): Kenneth (K-Sam) Perkins (10) sprints toward the finish line during a race at Huntington. Perkins ran a time of 6.9 seconds in the 55-meter dash and also ran the 400 in 57.5 seconds. His and his teammates' times show promise, but the team will use these practice times to set their season goals.

file photo

Laura Phillip (12) returns a shot to an opponent during a match at last year's regional competition. Last season, the team won regionals and finished second at semi-state.

Girls tennis sets high expectations

sarah kennedy
writer

The Homestead Girls tennis team just began their season on March 8th. The team will begin with conditioning and building up endurance for the season. In order to make the team, the members had to pass a written tennis test, and they only had three chances to pass the test.

There are three different JV tennis teams (blue, gold and white). Freshmen are put on the white team to begin, and they must work their way up the team with their level of experience.

The team members will play both singles and doubles matches in order to gain experience and get used to playing the game both ways. The girls will strive to make-up for class act singles player Susan Shim (graduate 2003), who played four years on Varsity and was #1 singles last season. Doubles teams like last year's powerhouse of Connie Shim (12) and Brooke Parrish (12), are expected to bring success to the season.

The girls tennis team has not lost the sectional championship since 1994, and after last year's regional championship and a second place finish at semi-state, they hope to continue the winning tradition.

Girls softball heads back to the diamonds

matt anderson
designer

With a stack of returning players from last season's team, the girls softball team looks to improve upon their performance from last year and hopes to capture a conference title.

"The majority of the varsity players are upperclassmen," Ann McCullough (11) said. "There are only four sophomores on the varsity roster. Because of this, we are feeling pretty confident about our upcoming season. Everyone gets along really well, and that will show when we start playing together."

The team is looking to their seniors and upperclassmen to help them stay up emotionally and get pumped up for the games so that they will not have to worry about emotions getting in the way of a win.

"Our seniors and experience really help us, because when we are down, we know how to bring each other back up to where we need to be," Amber Ludwig (11) said. "A lot of times we get down on ourselves and start making errors, but with the support we have this year, that will not happen as much."

The girls are also looking for their experience to help them on the defensive side of the ball. Ludwig, the ace pitcher, intends to pursue a follow-up of last year's record breaking season for strike outs.

"I think our team's biggest strength is our defense," McCullough said. "We have a very solid defense game. Most of the field has prior experience and we should be set with pitching too."

Looking ahead into the season, the team is already preparing for top area teams that they know always bring a tough team to play.

"Dwenger is always a team that provides tough competition for us," McCullough said. "We also hope to beat Snider and Northrop because they usually have solid teams."

To be the best in the area the girls feel they still need to improve upon their rough areas, especially if they want to take home a conference or sectional win by the end of the season.

"I think we need to work hard on our batting before the season starts. I know we have top hitters that will step it up this year. Also, I think we need to take this season very seriously because we have a lot of potential to succeed."

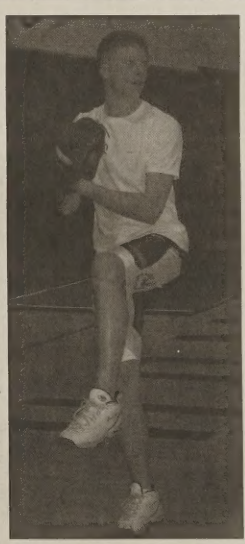
Hitting will be a key area for the team if they want to be successful this year in conference and sectional play.

"We will need to be solid with our bats this year if we want to beat teams like Dekalb, who are returning a great senior pitcher," Ludwig said. "If we do not match our defensive skills with our offensive then we will be in trouble, but I think we will be pretty strong since we have been practicing all winter."

The girls have been conditioning since last October and are hoping that their preparation for the season to come will pay off.

"We have been working almost the entire school year as a team," Ludwig said. "We have improved our batting, fielding and endurance through conditioning. Because of this, I think we are more ready to face tough pitchers. We have more confidence now and show less fear on the field."

Upcoming home games: 3/30, 3/31, 4/14, 4/15, 4/16, and 4/22



Nick Johnston (10) winds up for a throw at practice.

Baseball players catch spring fevor

larry buchanan
designer

Spring is here and baseball has begun. Tryouts ran last week Monday through Saturday. Under the instruction of head coach Keith Potter and assistant coach Tim Decker, the team will scrimmage Snider on March 22. Their first game will be on April 6, against Blackford. The team will play a total of 26 regular season games. ending with May 27. If the regular season goes well, sectionals begin on May 31. The team will consist of 10 returning players and 4 or 5 additional players. The returners are Tyler Keena (11), Ryan Chenoweth (11), Scott Valentic (12), Josh Schwartz (12), Nick Rolf (12), Matt Hille (11), Matt Witham (11), Ben Kitto (12), Jared Baker (11), Ryan Laughlin (12), and Ryan Koepke (12). The new players are Nate Carden (11), Matt Mangan (12), Adam Rash (11), plus two possible additions (Jeff Grabowski 11, Chris Copley 11. Practices began on March 8, and the team will be working toward their goal of a sectional win.

Year-long Schedule

March 22	*Snider Scrimage*	*H*
April 6	*Blackford*	*A*
April 10	*Marion*	*H*
April 13	*Bishop Dwenger*	*A*
April 14	*Peru*	*H*
April 15	*Concordia*	*H*
April 19	*Manchester*	*H*
April 20	*Blackhawk Christian*	*H*
April 22	*Huntington North*	*A*
April 24	*Northrop (2)*	*H*
April 27	*East Noble*	*A*
April 29	*Columbia City*	*H*
May 1	*Elmhurst (2)*	*A*
May 4	*Bellmont*	*A*
May 6	*Dekalb*	*H*
May 8	*Snider (2)*	*A*
May 11	*Carroll*	*H*
May 13	*Norwell*	*A*
May 15	*S.B. Washington*	*A*
May 18	*New Haven*	*A*
May 19	*Wayne*	*H*
May 26	*North Side*	*H*
May 27	*South Side*	*H*
May 31	*Sectional*	*Snider*
June 3	*Sectional*	*Snider*
June 5	*Sectional*	*Snider*
June 12	*Regional*	*Kokomo*
June 18	*Semi-State*	*Carmel*
TBA	*State*	*TBA*

Stepping up to the tees

Upcoming tryouts for the boys golf team has many anticipating a season of improvement

austin hetrick
intern writer

Spring is in the air...and so are golf balls. Tryouts for the Homestead golf team were held earlier this week at Chestnut Hills golf course.

Actual practices for the team will start around the beginning of April and will be held daily. Head Coach Rod Parker, a Woodside Middle School sixth grade science teacher, gave his players a new outlook on the team last year.

"A lot of our practices consisted of putting, chipping, and hitting balls out of range, but sometimes we played a full nine holes," last year's co-team captain Mike Hines said in an interview following the 2003 season.

Team members are selected based on their individual skills, attitude, work ethic, grade level, and course performance. Cuts will be made over the next few weeks.

With last season's 9-2 record, the golf team proved itself to be worthy competition in conference and sectional matches. Last year's victories included the NHC Conference and a tie with East Noble for the Sectional win.

"I think the team worked hard in the off-season and as a result improved," Paul Gauger (11) said following last year's season.

Homestead golf features both varsity and junior varsity players. Members who shoot low enough are named to the NHC All-Conference team.

Last year's number one golfer and co-team captain was Erich Martin, now in college, whose average score was 41.07. Martin and Hines were named to the 1st All-Conference team.

Although their hard work only presented them with a disappointing ninth place finish at regionals (out of twelve teams), the team improved on many aspects of their individual games. This year's team promises further success with several returning players trying out. Students trying out are given a minimum of two tryout dates or the option of counting time spent at the Golf Dome toward that minimum prior to the first cuts.

Come competition season, Homestead Golf hopes to continue their match victories of the previous season.

4b
March 12, 2004
the Spartana
VERBOSE
(vər-bos) adj. Using or contianing an excessive number of words; wordy

Joanna Rogers

Over two hundred years ago a group of men joined together to form a new America. A country where all people have certain unalienable rights. One of the most important principals laid out by the Constitution these men formed is the freedom of speech and press. It was so highly regarded that the great thinkers of our country clearly stated this right in the First Amendment. Today this Amendment still forms the base of free expression. As Editor of one of the top high school publications in the country, I am proud to be working in a school system that respects our Nation's Constitution. I have been to workshops and summer programs where students from other cities and states have shared stories about their battles with their school's administration regarding censorship. Some schools have even gone to court fighting for the freedom to print information that will enlighten readers and provide an open forum to share the multitudes of views found in a school. When I hear journalism students discuss their struggles I realize how fortunate I am to be in a school system that directly states in the Student Publications Policy that the school corporation "encourages vigorous treatment of a wide range of subject matter, including controversial issues." The policy also states that "student journalists are free to report and to editorialize on events, ideas, and issues in their high school...even though their reports or editorials may be controversial, unpopular, or critical of school affairs or officials." As the rest of the year continues to progress, I hope I can continue being proud of the respect shown by students, teachers, and administrators within the school. Homestead leads the way in athletics, academics, journalism, and countless other areas. I hope we do not let controversy prohibit success.

Josh Zurawski

When I decided to write an article discussing my opinion about Student Government, I wrote to see some change. I wrote because there is a considerable number of people in this school who feel the same way as I, but who fear confrontation. I wrote because I thought that Student Government needed to hear the other side. I wrote because it saddened me to see a lack of effort, or maybe I wrote because the student body doesn't see their effort. I'm not exactly sure what percentage of each of those factors comprise the piece, but nonetheless, I wrote. Once that issue of *the Spartana* was in circulation, I had students and teachers alike give me either very positive or very negative feedback; one more than the other, but this isn't the time to take sides. This is the time for our school to understand that as student-journalists, we have the responsibilities of both students and journalists. From a student prospective, a considerable amount of time is spent after school working on this publication. The editors, Joanna, Mary, Zafar, Mel, Manasee, Suhas, Caitlin, Kasey and I, spend an average of15-20 hours a week on our publication, which is our homework for our seventh period class. It is the most stressful and time-consuming class I have ever had, but I love it. From a journalistic standpoint, we are here to tell the story of Homestead High School, just as the *News Sentinel* or the *Journal Gazette* exists to tell the story of Fort Wayne. Unfortunately, we would be painting a false portrait of Homestead if every single article was written from a positive angle. As a student-journalist, I wrote. I gave my opinion. I did not attack any particular person and in fact, I said at the end of my piece that both Student Government and their leader were very capable. Keeping that in mind, everyone, including myself, needs to take this opportunity to turn this experience into a learning one. The *Spartana* operates as a limited open forum. Our goal is to give objective reporting, and when an opinion piece is published, we give anyone the opportunity to reply, as long as it is within the guidelines. We are extremely fortunate that we live in a community that allows for free exchange; it was unbelievable when I was personally attacked by a few students and an equal number of teachers for voicing my opinion. If you don't agree with an opinion that is printed in a newspaper, write a response to the opinion, not the person. And if you truly believe that there is no truth in someone's opinion, then look at it this way: it is just someone's opinion after all. Now that the rules have been reviewed and a few suggestions have been made, let's see a friendly, constructive opinion page.

Mary Rozman

On Monday, March 8, 2004 in Baghdad, Iraqis signed a landmark interim constitution. The Governing Council signed in to action provisions for a permanent constitution, future elections, and requirements for a return to self-rule.

The ceremony was initially delayed by nearly a week due to disagreement among Shiite and Kurdish council members. Then, on Friday March 5, Shiite council members backed out of the ceremony after news that the new interim constitution effectively gives three Kurdish provinces veto power on the permanent constitution.

This document will be the law of the land, until Iraqi leaders are elected and the permanent constitution is implemented.

While the interim constitution is a step in the right direction for Iraq, several major problems are still unresolved. The first and most obvious question is who will lead Iraq? The interim constitution establishes a president with two deputies who will then choose a prime minister and cabinet; however, it is vague on how the president and deputies will be chosen.

In addition, the interim constitution describes Iraq as a federal state, such as Canada or Brazil. Authority will be granted to individual regions, but it isn't specific as to how much authority each region will have.

Under the new constitution, Islam is recognized as Iraq's official religion. An official religion will go against a bill of rights guaranteeing freedom of religion, speech, press, and assembly.

Even with some of the new constitution's weaknesses, this is still a crucial step for Iraq. If the U.S. plans to turn over power to the Iraqi people on June 30, then this is the first of many small victories for the rebuilding of free and democratic Iraq.

Zafar Sayed

Racism and discrimination have been no strangers to United States history, although many of us would like to believe that they are deeply rooted in the past. For the most part however, we have passed this era of blatant bigotry and have since entered the age of forced political correctness. Society has been trying for some time now, to make all groups of people, whether minority or majority, feel welcome and heard. So, it is with a patriotic sense of justice that I bring forth the following problem to you, the reader's eyes and ears.

It seems as though a recent trend has developed throughout the halls of our school - calling other students racial names as a casual greeting. To those who do it, this "harmless" practice may seem innocent enough, yet it touches on an underlying issue. Any sort of discriminating comment, even in jest, can many times be unnerving and offensive to the minorities they affect. This is not to say that I am adversely affected by such comments (though they can be irritating at times), nor do I believe that every minority takes offense at being called "Brown" or "Black". Rather, I am simply stating that it is necessary to use caution and clear judgment before making racially biased comments at random.

Melanie Kuehnert

Many students do not understand the meaning of relaxation. As a student, one has to keep the grades sufficient, earn additional pocket money , make plans for the future, and hope to live a social life. Being a senior in high school, it has taken me four years to learn I need a day off every once in a while.

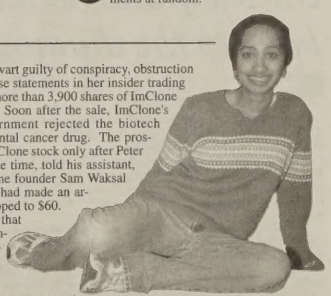
A typical high school student's day could run with classes for eight hours, then to after school activities or practices, and then heading to the part-time job, necessary for a student to survive. After possibly closing the workplace a student has to return home to a stack of studying.

I believe a student needs to take a "mental health day," as my mom calls it, to remain proficient in all aspects of life. Every couple of months I convince my mom to allow me to stay home in bed for a day, at least a half of day. The best feeling is lying in bed and knowing you can stay under the covers for 24 hours and all the trials and stresses of life will still be there tomorrow. Now, I'm not promoting procrastination; such as, skipping a day with term paper due or test.

a We all hear the studies of how a teenager does not get enough sleep. The few short hours following the completion of homework to the early call time of school. If classes would start on a hour later, students would be more awake and willing to learn. The restriction on hours of sleep is out of the student's control, therefore, a student needs to make time for extra sleep.

A young 17 year old trying to manage a life with school, work, and relationships can cause mental stress. Depression and anxiety attacks increase as the student adds more activities. A frequent day of break or relaxation can alleviate any petty stress.

Manasee Atre



Last Friday, a jury found Martha Stewart guilty of conspiracy, obstruction of justice and two counts of making false statements in her insider trading trial. In December 2002, Stewart sold more than 3,900 shares of ImClone Systems stock, worth about $250,000. Soon after the sale, ImClone's stock value tumbled when the government rejected the biotech company's application for an experimental cancer drug. The prosecution alleged that Stewart sold her ImClone stock only after Peter Bacanovic, Stewart's stock broker at the time, told his assistant, Douglas Faneuil, to tell her that ImClone founder Sam Waksal was trying to sell. Stewart argued she had made an arrangement to sell the stock when it dropped to $60.

Many critics of the case have argued that Stewart was a scapegoat for the government, that she was only prosecuted because she is a celebrity or because of the widespread dislike for her, or both. As Holman Jenkins said in The Wall Street Journal: "Mr. [James] Greenwood's subcommittee is pursuing Ms. Stewart solely because she's a celebrity, just like Mr. Greenwood wants to be. But having had his jollies and appeared on a dozen talking-head shows, the moment has come to notice that the evidence is circumstantial and it all points to no crime being committed by Ms. Stewart."

Whether Stewart was singled out and "picked on" is not important. The point is that she did commit a crime and she will pay the price for it. This case was a step in the right direction. It will show people that famous and influential people cannot commit crimes without fear of punishment - that they too will be held accountable for their actions. As one juror in the case said, "This is a victory for the little guys. ... No one is above the law."

The Editorial Review

In light of recent controversy in Massachusetts, California, and even the Hoosier state, many people are debating the validity or constitutionality of a ban on same-sex marriages. Some officials support President Bush's proposal for an amendment to the Constitution banning the marriages while others believe such action would be adding discrimination to the Constitution. For more information see page 5a.

Editorial Board Vote: 3 For, 3 Against

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The Spartana is a monthly production of the Journalism 3/4 class at Homestead High School. Its purpose is to educate, enlighten, and entertain. *The Spartana* has and may continue to operate as a limited open forum for the free exchange of ideas.

Profanity may appear in *the Spartana* with the approval of the adviser, but only in cases of direct quotations or if it is necessary for clarity. Material which is libelous or obscene and could cause substantial and material disruption, as defined by the Supreme Court, will not be printed.

Pubic input will be accepted in the form of letters to the editor. Letters must follow standards concerning liable or obscenity. Those which could cause substantial and material disruption, as defined by the Supreme Court, will not be printed.

Staff members of *the Spartana* support the First Amendment rights and oppose censorship in any form. The content of the paper is determined by the student staff. In cases of potentially controversial material the editorial board will meet to decide the content of the newspaper. Students will be assisted by the adviser in areas of professional ethics and legalities.

(kə-myōōn´) v. To converse intimately; exchange thoughts and feelings

the Spartana
COMMUNE

5b
March 12, 2003

Letters to the Editor

Reminder: The views and opinions expressed on this page do not necessarily represent those of the Spartana or of its staff.

An opinion

In definition this is what Josh Zurawski did in his editorial distributed Friday. Obviously he did this well because so many members of the student council are up in arms. Instead of seeing this as something to learn from and use his opinion (as something they are constantly asking the student for as they are called "The Student Government".) It almost seems childish the way they are handling this. Acting as if this is something never heard of. As if he just sat down in front of his computer and thought, "I think I will attack Student Government today!" There is a reason behind this. The reason being the student body or at least members of the student body are dissatisfied with the student government. And if the members of student government cannot handle that, maybe they should not be in Student Government.

---Ashley Ford 2/16/04

Student Government responds to opinion piece

Hardworking Student Government proves triumphant: Student Government empowered by creativity, dedication, and desire

Freedom of speech, a principle guarded by the First Amendment in our Constitution's Bill of Rights, is exercised daily. In conversation, a person is free to say what they wish, even if their words are offensive to others. Likewise, individuals are able to write their opinions freely. Freedom of speech comes with responsibility, however; one must be accountable for what one says. It is not wise to write or say something without knowing the correct facts, which means researching the topic that is up for discussion. Every person must live with what they say and do, and no one wishes to say or write incorrect and hurtful things. As Student Government members, we understand firsthand how others may have misinformed opinions about topics. We are not immune to misinformation and presumptuous conclusions. Aren't we all guilty of making assumptions from time to time? However, we wouldn't dare write strongly about something we didn't first take the time to gather information about. Only seeing one side of the story is misleading, and views often are misconstrued before having the chance to see the full picture.

"Imagine yourself going to school in the following circumstances: no Spirit Day Raffle, no backroom candy sales, no recycling."

In the most recent issue of the Spartana, Josh Zurawski wrote an opinionated piece titled "Lackadaisical Student Government proves ineffective: Student Government crippled by inefficiency, lack of purpose, desire." As the title suggests, his article criticized Student Government. Josh wrote negatively about our organization, using only his opinions and never once supported his statements by facts. Although we do not appreciate his lack of research and his willingness to bash one of the largest student-body-serving institutions at Homestead, we do not wish to berate him for bygones. We wish to inform. So let us begin by correcting all of Josh's untrue accusations.

1. His article mentions the lack of advertisement for the Snowcoming dance, namely the lack of posters. Unfortunately, Snowcoming week directly followed the week we had three cancellations and one delay, not including the four delays and one cancellation called the week of Snowcoming. Thus, due to shortened periods and no school (both prevented Student Government members from walking the halls to hang up posters during 5th period), we were unable to advertise as well as we have in the past. On the same note, we do check the hallways to make sure posters are being hung. The Wednesday of Snowcoming week, five posters were found concerning the week's events just in the cafeteria commons alone. Not to mention the information relayed on the morning announcements for two weeks prior to Snowcoming week, or the Friday morning video announcements the day of the dance to inform students about the upcoming elections and the specifics for the night's dance. It's not Student Government's fault that some kids walk through the hallways with their heads to the floor, talk during the morning announcements, or sleep while the Friday TV announcements are being aired. We try our best, but it's simply impossible to inform every person in the school about school events.

2. In Josh's words, "Student Government and lazy seem to go hand-in-hand." From an outsider's perspective, we can see how one might think this statement is true. It is so easy to judge others when you only see 2% of what is actually going on, and are unable to view what is happening behind the scenes during the other 98% of the time. So, when someone calls Student Government lazy, we know they are misinformed and need to be set straight. After all, few people know that many Student Government members have gone days without eating lunch because we were working nonstop on service projects to benefit the school, the community, or both. Only those involved in Student Government know that we often spend relentless hours inside and outside of school planning events, shopping at every corner of Fort Wayne for the best and cheapest materials (used for dances), bargaining prices, ordering supplies, designing decorations, and even working on--- you guessed it, advertising. But to fully understand the amount of time members spend working to make Student Government a success, move on to the next correction listed in number three.

3. Josh asks how Student Government spends the money we raise and implies that we hoard all the money in the bank. Wrong. We spend money on various school functions, clubs, and charities. Imagine yourself going to school in the following circumstances: no Spirit Day Raffle, no backroom candy sales, no recycling, no posters in the hallway (not including posters made by other clubs), no Fall Picnic, no Homecoming dress days, no Homecoming Court (neither King nor Queen), no Homecoming Dance, no tailgate party, no Homecoming carnations, no Panoramic picture, no Adopt-A-Family, no semiformal dance, no Snowcoming dress days, no Snowcoming dance, no Dirty Duckers dodge ball game, no student-faculty basketball game, no Pennies for Patients, no Blood Drive, no Computer Dating, no Cinderella Dress Day, no Just Because Week dress days, no Just Because week games, no Just Because Week treat sales, no MORP, no Spring picnic, no EarthFest, no Prom (which means no Prom glasses or Memory Books), no Prom Court (neither King nor Queen), no Senior trip, no Senior Wills, no Senior breakfast, no Senior Variety Show, and no Senior slide show. Those are a few events Student Government spends money and time on to give back to the students. Did we mention these are the things that would affect every single person in the school, not mentioning the other things we do that affect only those in certain clubs? Let us elaborate. Student Government has never turned away a club or organization that asked for money or support. Never. So the following Homestead clubs and groups would no longer receive money or support Student Government donates/ have donated for their cause: DECA, Academic Decathalon, Dance Marathon, students/ faculty who have experienced recent tragedies (fires or storms which damaged homes, car accidents, or deaths of family members, etc.), the school secretaries, the school nurses, faculty members who receive snacks at their meetings, SADD, World War II memorial fund, Senior Scholarships, French Club, German Club, Super-mileage team, Dance team, JCL, We the People, and many more. This list does not even begin to describe the charitable things our organization does for the community, which brings us to point number four.

4. Josh questions why we give so much money to charities and spend so much time working on events that better the community. Correct us if we're wrong, but we've never looked at partaking in charity events as a bad thing. Josh supports his criticism with the fact that any person could easily search the web to find "umpteen charities" to donate to. We would like to meet the Homestead students who have actually donated to charities by researching different nonprofit organizations and then given money. Student Government provides an easy way for students to do what in their hearts hope to do: give to those less fortunate or those in need. Without Student Government, many students would not have the opportunity to readily donate to any form of charity. Some of the charitable events that we take part in or organize and create by donating time and money are: Pennies for Patients, Adopt-A-Family, IU Dance Marathon for Riley's Children Hospital, sponsor three children from third-world countries, give money to Cancer Society, Cinderella Dress Day, volunteer for a PBS presentation, Freshmen orientation, EarthFest, donate to Good Will, give money to Fox Island, and donate to several smaller charities and organizations. We know that our efforts are appreciated by those we help. For example, we received a letter from a woman we donated to through Adopt-A-Family. She wrote, "My children and I have had to depend on the kindness of strangers for a few years now, but never have we been so blessed by people whom, not only care about others, but actually took the time to think about us as people and what we need. My daughter can walk down the school halls with pride and hold her head up wearing her new outfit.... I just hope you know how much it was appreciated that you chose to help the less fortunate this year."

"We try our best, but it's simply impossible to inform every person in the school about school events."

6. Josh also bashes the election system and the requirements and individual must have if they wish to run for executive board. We currently have prior-involvement requirements on seven of the 41 positions up for election (yes, that's 41 members Josh, not "twenty-odd kids"). If you want to be Executive Board President or Treasurer, you must have two years experience in Student Government. Executive Board Vice President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, and Junior and Senior Class President must have one year experience in Student Government in order to run for these positions. Now, some students may feel angry that there are requirements to run for these positions. However, any club or team has certain prerequisites which must be met in order to hold higher-ranking positions. For example, a captain of a sports team is almost always an upperclassman with previous experience. A person who is just starting to play the sport is never chosen to lead the team. Also, in order to be an editor of any publication at our school, one must have prior experience. In order to be a staff member you must first take the classes Journalism one and Journalism two, and to be an editor you should have one year experience as a staff member. Would you want an inexperienced person leading your sports team? The school newspaper, magazine, or yearbook? How about an inexperienced person leading the school? We think our reasons for requiring previous experience in Student Government before running for the seven of the 41 positions are justifiable.

Although we do not proclaim to be perfect, we will protest that we always give our best effort to support the school and community. Imperfection is a part of humanity, and we are not superhuman, even if we try. However, we are not closed-minded, and are open to constructive criticism. Constructive, however, is the key word. We encourage anyone with concerns to voice their opinion(s), but please make sure your views are educated before speaking or writing. We hope this article has corrected any negative connotations about Student Government and has enlightened those unaware of the many things we do.

Respectfully submitted,

Newspaper Committee (Kait Stevens, Ben Baenan, Angie Heyer, Audri Nicholson, Ann McCullough, Alli Matheis, Brandon Landes, and Shawn Sullivan) on behalf of Student Government

The following was also submitted by the Student Government:

Student Government wrote an email to the faculty at Homestead, asking those who have received support from us in the past to write a few sentences about their feelings toward Student Government. Some of their responses were:

"Homestead Junior Classical League is a fairly small club for all Latin students who care to particpate.... Student Government has been gracious enough in the past to subsidize some of our students and activities so the burden isn't so great (costs at least $150.00 per participant). They have done this in a very organized, professional manner, asking for an accounting of where the money will be used and for assurance that we have tried to raise money ourselves through fundraisers.... Fortunately, we have received Student Government gifts ranging from $300 to $700 during several years of our 15-year JCL experience.... it's good to know that Student Government is willing to share its funds with the clubs of this school when necessary."---- Mrs. Adair, teacher of Latin and English, JCL advisor

"As a past advisor to Student Government, I am aware that there are many things that Student Government does that goes unrecognized by the staff and students.... In the past years, I have appreciated the financial support Student Government has given the We the People class, helping to pay our expenses to the state competition."---- Mr. Potter, teacher of History, We the People advisor

"When I had to leave school for a few months for surgery and recovery, the Student Government showed its support and concern by sending a beautiful flower arrangement to my home. I was very appreciative of the collective thoughtfulness shown to a staff member."----- Mrs. Bloom, teacher of English

"I know that Student Government has sponsored/provided snacks and treats for staff on different occasions to show appreciation. I don't think any other groups except administration and parents ever do that. I appreciate the time, hassle, and money they spend to brighten our day once in a while on behalf of the entire student body."----- Mrs. McCombs, teacher of Mathematics

"We at SADD know what a great job you guys do. We brainstormed and came up with a partial list of the things Student Government has done for SADD in the past year alone: gave money to send twenty students to the state SADD conference, gave time and effort to help with Red Ribbon Week, allowed us to display our logo on the back of Semi-formal tickets, held and at HHS, have been great to work with every time we as a SADD chapter have needed anything."----- Mr. Harkness, teacher of Government and History, SADD advisor

"Many times we do not realize all the good things that an organization may do. I would like to thank Student Government for the things they do for me. Student Government takes my recycling, which is quite a bit here in the workroom. Student Government also donates to my candy jar, which is greatly appreciated since so many benefit from it.... They have given me some lovely flower arrangements and gave a generous donation to the quilting club for the purchase of fabric and supplies to make the quilt for Mrs. Bloom. I know this is just a small sample of the good that Student Government does. These are all acts of kindness and I appreciate them." ---- Mrs. Kaste, workroom

"As Academic Decathalon Team has gone to the State Finals. We approached Student Government on both of these occasions and they agreed to give a great deal of financial support-- paying for the hotel rooms for the team and helping with food." ---- Mr. Baker, teacher of History, Academic Teams advisor

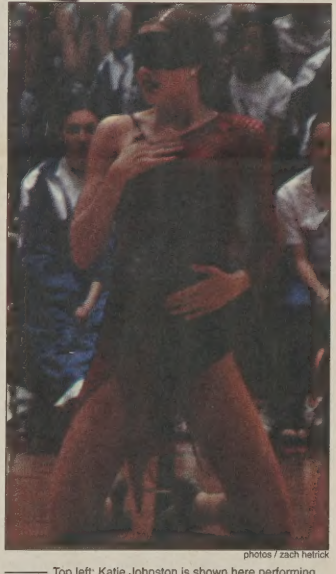
"One of the greatest privileges I have had as an administrator at Homestead High School, has been to work with our Student Government. Each year, the professionalism and leadership shown by Mr. Maher has been exemplified by his students. The student government members at Homestead have surprised and amazed me with their dedication, work ethic, school spirit, and leadership, through good times and bad. In my five years as an administrator at Homestead High School this year's student government organization is one of the best I have seen and I am once again proud to work with them." ----- Mr. Schillinger, Assistant Principal

Kait Stevens (12) Ben Baenen (12) Angie H[illegible] (12) Alli Matheis (11) Shawn Sullivan (10) Brandon Landes (10) Audri Nicholson (11)

the Spartana
EMINENCE

(em´ə-n əs) n. a person of high station or great achievements

Triple threat



photos / zach hetrick

Top left: Katie Johnston is shown here performing her solo at the state competition in Indianapolis. Johnston placed first for the second year in a row. Her first year at state (2002) she placed third. Bottom left: Johnston is shown here performing in their lyrical competition. The team won the lyrical competition for the second year in a row. Above: Johnston, shown again performing her solo, performed half of it blind folded. Katie placed first last year with a score of 99.8, one of the highest scores ever seen at the IHSDTA state competition. She placed first in every solo competition during the season. She captured first place at State this year to end a perfect season. Johnston and her partner Alex Kruse combined for the highest score of 95.775 and brought home the state championship.

larry buchanan
designer

Solo *n.* a performance by one person or instrument; duet *n.* an ensemble by two performers; team *n.* a group or organization organized to work together. Dance team member Katie Johnston (11) performed at all three of these levels of competiton at the state level on March 5th, making her a triple threat in the world of dance. Out of six possible events, Johnston competed in five.

Johnston has been on the varsity team since she was a freshman and has competed at the state competition in the senior soloist division each year. She has failed to place below third in those three years. She claimed state championships her sophomore year with a score of 99.8, one of the highest scores ever seen at the IHSDTA state competition, and this year with a score of 94.5. In addition to taking home the state championship in the solo division, she also placed first in every solo competition during the season.

Johnston and her duet partner, Alex Kruse (10), also competed in the small ensemble division at state. Recieving the highest score overall (95.775), they also brought home a state championship.

"[Johnston and Kruse] have been dancing together for a long time and when you dance with the same person for a long time you start to move like them," team member Kelly Childs (10) said. "They have taken lessons from the same teachers and the way they dance compliments the others style."

Following the individual competitions, Johnston competed with the team in the divisions of pom, jazz, and lyrical. Under the instruction of coach Jennifer Bay, and the leadership of Johnston, they took home a first place finish in lyrical, a third place finish in jazz, and an eighth place finish in pom. Johnston competed in every event except for the large ensemble divsion.

In addition to dancing for Homestead, she also dances for Tiffany and Company (Tiffany's). This will be her fifth year at Tiffany's.

Her list of accolades incorporates more: she is a member of "Master Company" at Tiffany's, which is the highest company one can achieve. Last year she was given the honor of "dancer of the year," and she also won the VIP award at reginals in Dayton, Ohio. Nationals were held in New York City where she was nominated, along with 20 others, for a prestigious award.

"I dance with Katie," Tiffany's member Jenna Wise said. "I have seen her improve and it is an honor to dance with her. She is awesome."

Varsity dance takes first in lyrical, third in jazz at state competition

ashley butler
designer

Homestead's first place state-ranked dance team has done it again. With many varsity members, the team was excited to defend their three year lyrical winning streak at the state level.

"We got first place in lyrical, which we are all really happy about," Adrienne Ahee (11) said.

During their regular season, the varsity dance team consistently placed in the top four schools in both jazz and pom divisions.

As well as their first place title in lyrical, the team placed third and eighth in the jazz and pom divisions respectively.

"Stylistically, in both lyrical and jazz we were a lot better than most of the other teams," Ahee said.

Katie Johnston (11) and Ahee, along with a duet featuring Johnston and Alex Kruse (10) competed at the state level in the individual/ensemble divisions.

The dance team had three of the four top rankings in the solo division at the state competition: Johnston placed first, Ahee placed third, and Kruse placed fourth. The Johnston/Kruse duet placed first out of all the small ensemble groups.

"I feel that state was the best that I had ever performed my solo," Ahee said.

Johnston, in addition to placing first at state, received a first place rating at all of the competitions that the dance team attended this year.

The next event for the team is Nationals, which will be held this year at Disney World in Orlando, Florida.

"This is the first year that we're going to this particular competition," Johnston said. "The last time that we were in Florida, we were entered into a different competition all together."

"[At nationals] I think the team will do great," dance coach Jennifer Bay said, "They definately have the potential to score very well."

There is not a school sponsored competition for dance teams across the country after the state competition. In order to compete in Nationals, schools send videotapes to various organizations and are then accepted to perform.

When the dance team went to a Nationals competition two years ago, the competition was held at Universal Studios and was sponsored by a different organization.

"I really have no idea what this year's competition will be like," Johnston said. "We have never been to this competition before."

Along with the team's lyrical, jazz, and pom dances, varsity dance solos have also been approved for competition in Florida. Four soloists, Johnston, Kruse, Ahee, and Childs, will be competing at nationals.

"Not being [to this competiton] before, we do not know the competition," Bay said, "I know all of their talents and I think all four will do exceptionally well."

After Nationals, the team will perform both during Spring Fine Arts week and at their own program at the end of the school year.

The team's spring performance will be at Homestead, and will feature all of the teams' dances, solos, and additional groups of dancers who did not compete during the season.

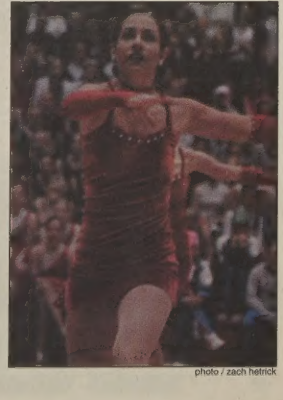


photo / zach hetrick

Betsy Peoples (11) preps for a turn during the team's lyrical dance at the state competition. The team was rewarded with first place in the lyrical division, third place in jazz, and eighth place in pom. This is the third year in a row that the team has been recognized as lyrical champions. They will be competing at the national competition in Florida this spring with their jazz, lyrical and varsity solos.

the Spartana
ENTERTAINMENT
March 12, 2004 Contact the Entertainment Editor at theSpartana@hotmail.com

Family ties

"We rarely see each other at school, but sometimes he brings me a Pepsi in the afternoon."

Tina Miller, math teacher

Many teachers within the school are more than co-workers; they have a personal relationship

katie corson
writer

During the four years that students spend at Homestead, they spend much of their time in the presence of teachers, coaches, and guidance counselors.

However, although students spend so much time around these faculty members, many do not know that numerous staff members have family members as co-workers.

The Quigley family is one example. This is Tom Quigley's eighteenth year as a guidance counselor at Homestead. Beth Quigley, his wife, began working as Homestead's school nurse this past fall. Their son-in-law, Brian Nicholson, has also been teaching in the math department for two years. Tom and Beth Quigley also have a son who is a senior at Homestead.

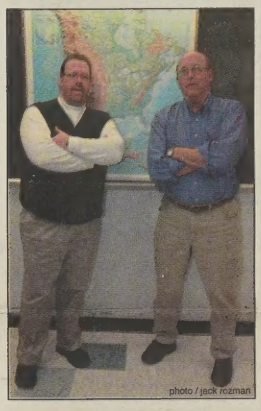


photo / jack rozman

"When Tom was principal at Marion Bennett High School, I used to fill in for his secretary when she went on vacation," B. Quigley said. "I have also substitute taught at Homestead a few times. When we were in school, we both worked at the graduate library at I.U. together. This is the first time that we have ever worked full time together, though."

"I like working at the same school because transportation to and from school is very convenient," T. Quigley said. "It is also nice to have the same calendar as far as vacations like Spring Break and Winter Break."

Nicholson said he believes that working in the same school as his in-laws has allowed him to get to know them better.

English teacher Jan Venderly also believes that teaching at the same school can help a relationship. She and drama teacher Ed Koczergo have been married for nine and a half years, and they have both been teaching at Homestead for five years (Koczergo for ten years, and Venderly for five).

"It is a great perk to have your spouse working at the same place as you," Venderly said. "It makes my job that much more enjoyable, and very unique."

Venderly also said that when she worked at New Haven High School, she and Koczergo talked to each other at least once during the day every day that they were at school.

"Now, sometimes we'll go a whole school day without one of us picking up the phone to say hello," Venderly said. "It seems it would be the other way around. We don't eat lunch together and we drive separately, but whenever we have faculty meetings, one of us always saves a chair for the other so we can sit together. I think having similar professions has helped improve our relationship because we can so easily understand what we both go through. I do not think I would want to be married to someone who was not a teacher. We agree on so much about teaching. I also take a great interest in his daily activities. So I always ask him questions about his day."

"I enjoy working at the same school as my spouse, because I have the opportunity to see my better half during the day," Koczergo said. "Having the same profession and same interests leads to very interesting discussions."

Social studies teacher Shawn Harkness has been teaching in the same building as his father-in-law, biology teacher Jay Hammel, for ten years. Although they only see each other about once a week, Harkness says he still enjoys working with him at Homestead.

"Jay is a great father-in-law," Harkness said. "He is a role model as both a father-in-law and as a teacher."

Having similar professions has not had a large impact on their relationship or their daily activities at Homestead however.

"We all just do our jobs to the best of our abilities," Harkness said. "When I see Jay at school, we treat each other as fellow teachers."

Tina Miller and her husband Mike Miller have been married for twenty years, and they have been teaching together at Homestead for twenty-five years. Although they teach very different subjects (M. Miller in physical education and T. Miller in math) they still enjoy certain things about being in the same building.

"We rarely see each other at school, but sometimes he brings me a Pepsi in the afternoon," T. Miller said.

Although it does not dominate their lives, Homestead has always been a big part of the Miller family. Aside from both having taught here for a fourth of a century, the Millers also have three children who have attended Homestead over the years.

"I enjoy working the same school as my spouse," T. Miller said. "It is nice after school to discuss our separate days in the same building. School is one more thing we have in common. It is fun to see former students who remember us. And of course, the Pepsi is thing is always nice!"

photo / melanie kuehnert

RIGHT: In-laws, Mr. Shawn Harkness, history teacher, and Mr. Jay Hammel, science teacher teach in separate departments, although they share a unique connection through Hammel's daughter.
ABOVE: On all levels of administration, math teacher, nurse, and counselor, Mr. Brian Nicholson, Mrs. Beth Quigley, and Mr. Tom Quigley, respectively, have a strong family tie because Nicholson is married to the Quigley's daughter. The family extends to the student body, with son Brian, a senior.

Throughout the years...

photo courtesy / jan venderly

Unknown Connections

Mr. Miller & *gym teacher*
Mrs. T. Miller *math teacher*

Mr. Koczergo *drama director* &
Ms. Venderly *English teacher*

Mr. Quigley *counselor* &
Mrs. Quigley *nurse* &
Mr. Nicholson *math teacher*

Mr. Harkness *history teacher* &
Mr. Hammel *science teacher*

Mr. Wood *gym teacher* &
Ms. Wood *Spanish teacher*

2c
March 12, 2004

the Spartana
EXHORTATIVE

(ig-zor t -tiv) adj. intending to encourage, incite, or advise

Spartan Briefs

Hidalgo

Based on the true story of the greatest long-distance horse race ever run, *Hidalgo* is an epic action-adventure of one man's journey of personal redemption. Held yearly for centuries, the Ocean of Fire - a 3,000 mile survival race across the Arabian Desert - was a challenge restricted to the finest Arabian horses ever bred, the purest and noblest lines, owned by the greatest royal families. Frank T. Hopkins (Viggo Mortensen) was a cowboy and dispatch rider for the US calvary who had once been billed as the greatest rider in the West. For Frank, the Ocean of Fire becomes not only a matter of pride and honor, but a race for his very survival as he and his horse, Hidalgo, attempt the impossible. *Hidalgo* opened on March 5 in theatres everywhere.

Starsky and Hutch

Set in the 1970s in a metropolis called Bay City, this is the tale of two police detective partners, Ken 'Hutch' Hutchinson (Wilson) and Dave Starsky (Stiller), who always seem to get the toughest cases from their boss, Captain Dobey. This is the story of their first big case (as a prequel to the TV show), which involves a former college campus drug dealer (Vaughn) who went on to become a white collar criminal

Agent Cody Banks 2

Frankie Muniz returns as Agent Cody Banks. A rogue CIA agent (and Cody's own trainer) has stolen a top secret mind-control device, and Cody has to go undercover in London to get it back. Posing as a student at an elite music boarding school, Cody has to keep other kids from discovering his true identity while infiltrating covert hideouts, tracking his target, and practicing the violin. With all new gadgets, high-flying comedy, a wisecracking new handler (Anthony Anderson), and a hip British Secret Service counter part (Hannah Spearrit), Cody has to fight the toughest enemy possible.

Jersey Girl

Ollie Trinke (Ben Affleck) is at the top of his game. A smooth, Manhattan music publicist, Ollie has just married the love of his life (Jennifer Lopez) and has a child on the way. It's a perfect life that is tragically upended when he suddenly finds himself a single father unqualified for his new role. Before long, Ollie's big city lifestyle clashes head on with fatherhood. After losing his job, he's forced to move back in with his father (George Carlin) in the New Jersey suburb where he was raised. With the help of a beautiful young friend (Liv Tyler) and daughter (Raquel Castro), he begins to realize that sometimes, you have to forget about what you thought you were and just accept who you are.

Taking Lives

A female FBI profiler is on the trial of a serial killer who has spent the past twenty years taking on the identities of his victims. Release date being March 19th, *Taking Lives* features Jean-Hugues Anglade, Tcheky Karyo, Angelina Jolie, and Ethan Hawke. This movie is rated R for violence, language, and some sexuality.

Concerts

Jet and the Vines will be in Detroit, MI at the Clutch Cargo on March 24 and at Vic Theatre in Chicago, Il on March 26. The Darkness will be playing at The Vic on March 27 in Chicago and St. Andrew in Detroit on March 28. On March 12 and 25, Kidrock will be preforming at the All-state Arena, Chicago, IL and Place of Auburn Hills, Detroit, MI, respectively. Beyonce, Missy Elliot and Alicia Keys will be at Allstate Arena on April 2.

Komets

The Komets finish February on top of the UHL with at 38-14-4 record and .714 point average. The upcoming games at home are March 12 against the Missouri River Otters at 3:05 p.m., March 13 playing Elmira at 7:30pm, and March 17 versus Flint at 7:30 p.m. There is an away game on March 14 at Rockford. This game starts at 4:05pm (FW time) and can be heard on WOWO .

Scooby- Doo 2: Monsters Unleased

Releasing on March 24, this movie is a sequel to the popular movie from 20002 *Scooby-Doo*. The movies follows the great dane Scooby and his friend Shaggy as they investigate who the masked villain in Coolsville is. On their journey, Scooby and Shaggyvisit the local museum. The movie is directed by Raja Gosnell and stars Matthew Lillard and Neil Fanning. Distributed by Warner Brothers, this movie is rated PG for some scary action, rude humor and language.

Calendar

3.10 *Puddle of Mudd* concert at Pierre's 3.12 *Kid Rock* concert in Detroit, MI 3.12 *Chingy and Ludacris* Entertainment Complex in Memphis, TN 3.13 Elite and Class Royale Show Choirs perform at East Noble High School. 3.24 *Jet and the Vines* concert at Clutch Cargo in Detroit, MI 3.26 *Jet and the Vines* play at Vic Theatre in Chicago, IL 3.27 *The Darkness* performs at The Vic in Chicago IL 3.28 *The Darkness* in Detroit, MI.

Economics classes engage in Indiana Stock Market simulation

javed sayed
designer

Every year, economics classes throughout Indiana can participate in the Indiana Stock Market Simulation. The Indiana Stock Market Simulation allows student to invest imaginary money in the stock market in order to see how the stark markets works in real life. The simulation also aids in the development of other important economics skills.

The Indiana Stock Market Simulation is usually played in teams of three or four students. The student groups are given a set amount of imaginary money, usually $100,000 at the beginning of the simulation. Students are able to invest the money however they please for the duration of the simulation.

"Each team is given $100,000 and they invest for a period of roughly three months," economics teacher Jeff Livensparger said.

Teams have their own accounts online where they are allowed to buy and sell whatever stocks they choose to. Additionally, students try to sell the stocks when they are able to make the most profit. Students therefore have to understand when it is better to sell and when it is better to see if stock prices will go up.

"You go online, where the team has 'an account," Viraj Verma (11) said. "The team buys their stocks there and keeps them until they decide to sell."

The goal of the game is to make as much profit as possible within the three month time period. Teams that earn the most at a school can go on to compete with other teams in the region and the state.

"[The teams] compete at the state and regional level," Livensparger said. "For example, [in] last year's spring semester, Homestead finished eleventh in the state but first in the region."

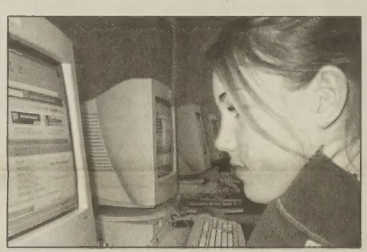
Regional winners receive certificates of achievement, while at the state level, teams are eligible to win scholarships and monetary awards. In addition, regional winners are given a lunch-in by Fort Wayne newspapers.

By playing the game, students have the opportunity to transfer what they have learned in class into the real world. Students research which stocks to buy and decide when to take chances and sell their stocks. They also learn that investing is not always easy.

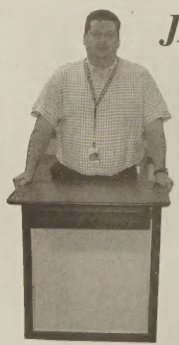
"Students get to use the skills and tools that they have learned in economics class," Livensparger said.

Teams at Homestead have a history of doing well in the Indiana Stock Market Simulation. For example, Both Livensparger and April Moss have had teams win the state and regional competitions the last three years.

The Indiana Stock Market Simulation allows students to view how economics can apply to the real world, and help them understand the economic world around them.



Jesse Shimkis (11) intently researches stocks for the Indiana Stock Market Simulation in her 6th period economics class. For this activity, students buy and sell stocks for a 10 week period.



JEFF LIVENSPARGER

Why do you encourage your students to play the Stock Market Simulation?

"Classes play the game in order to get a flavor of what's going on in the market; students practice skills that we work on in class, and try to make a lot of money in a short period of time."

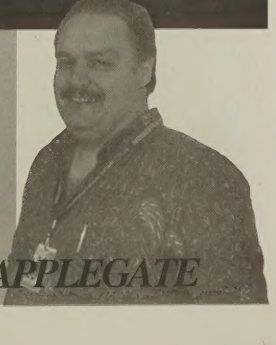
APRIL MOSS

How does the Stock Market Simulation relate to the curriculum?

" The Stock Market Simulation takes some of the mystery out of stocks for students; playing the game makes them more likely to invest in the future."

Why do you like teaching economics?

"I like teaching econ because it explains so much about human behavior."

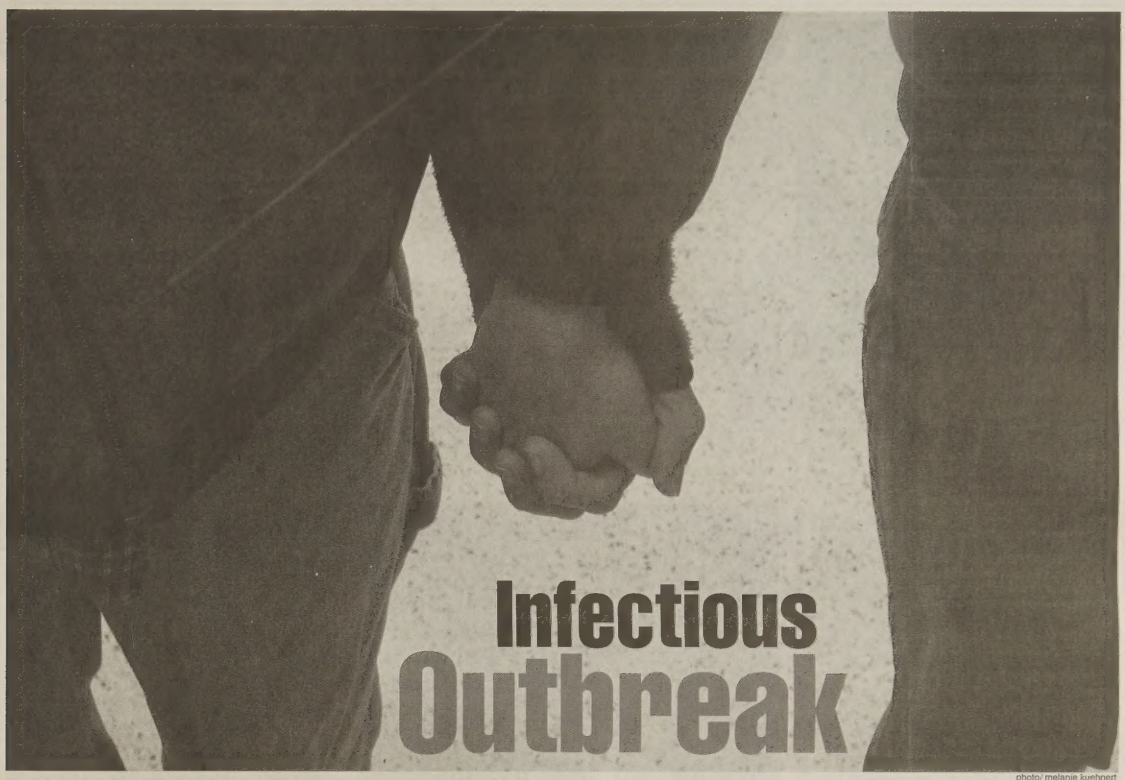


GREG APPLEGATE

(in-vig´ -rāt´) v.
to impart strength
or vitality; stimulate

the Spartan
INVIGORATE

3c
March 12, 2004



Infectious Outbreak

photo/ melanie kuehnert

HIV virus, sexually transmitted diseases continue to spread at significant rate

dillon kimmel
designe

Everyone has heard the statistics. In the United States, 65 million people and counting have contracted an incurable Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) and one in four Americans will develop an STD in their lifetime. Nevertheless, few Americans realize the impact that STDs have on society. The number of people who have contracted any one of the about twenty STDs continues to rise yearly.

STDs affect both men and women of all background, but are most prevalent in teenagers and young adults. In fact, nearly two-thirds of all STDs occur in people under the age of 25. The incidence of STDs is rising, especially in the past few decades, because young people are becoming sexually active earlier and are marrying later. The result is that many of the sexually active individuals today are likely to have multiple partners and are more at risk for developing STDs. This is very disturbing because the likelihood of developing an STD becomes more than four times as likely with multiple partners.

Most of the time, STDs have no symptoms, but if and when symptoms develop, they may be confused with other diseases. Therefore, doctors suggest routine STD screenings for those with multiple sexual partners.

When diagnosed early, many STDs can be treated effectively. However, many of the infections have become resistant to the medicines used to treat them.

Homestead students have a good idea of many of the different STDs because of the extensive educational resources available to them. For example, Jon Lehman (9) knew about many types of STDs and their symptoms.

"The most common STDs I've heard of are herpes, hepatitis, genital warts, and AIDS," Lehman said. "Symptoms usually include itchiness, rashes, and some can kill you over time."

AIDS was first discovered in the U.S. in 1981. It is caused by the HIV virus, which destroys the body's ability to fight infection. It is estimated that half of the adults between 18 and 44 have been tested for an STD other than AIDS. People with AIDS are extremely susceptible to many life-threatening diseases. Transmission usually occurs during sexual activity. Also, using needles which have not been cleaned can lead to disastrous circumstances. Always use clean needles when injecting intravenous drugs.

> "The best way to prevent contracting an STD is to just not have sex"
>
> -Brandon Landes (10)

Genital herpes affects an estimated 60 million Americans, but 500,000 new cases develop annually. Major symptoms include painful blisters or open sores in the genital area. The sores usually disappear within two to three weeks, but the infection remains in the body for life. It is estimated one in four Americans have genital herpes, but 80% are unaware of it.

Approximately 400,000 cases of gonorrhea are reported by the Center for Disease Control each year. The most serious complications of the STD include ectopic pregnancy infertility. At least 15% of all infertile women are infertile because of complications from gonorrhea.

Syphilis is the STD which has most declined in recent years. Its occurrence has decreased an average of 11,000 cases a year since 1996. The first symptoms may go unnoticed, but the initial symptom is a chancre, a painless open sore.

"The best way to prevent STDs is to avoid sexual contact with others," The Center for Disease Control said. "If you decide to be sexually active, there are things you can do to reduce your risk of developing an STD."

According to the CDC, those things include having a monogamous sexual relationship with an uninfected partner. Another item suggested is to use a condom and use clean needles when injecting intravenous drugs. The last is to delay sexual relations as long as possible, preferably until marriage.

"The younger people are when they begin a sexual lifestyle the more susceptible they are to developing an STD," the CDC said.

Common STDs

*Chlamydia- 3 million people become infected each year
*Gonorrhea- 650,000 people are infected annually
*Syphilis- 36,000 new cases each year
*Herpes- 1 in 5 individuals over age 12 is infected
*AIDS- 40,000 new cases in the U.S. each year
*Hepatitis- 120,000 new cases infected annually
*Genital warts- 5.5 million new cases each year
*Trichomoniasis- 5 million Americans become infected each year

source/ encarta encyclopedia

Eating a healthy breakfast daily proves beneficial for students

emma farnsworth
guest writer

My arm was shaking as I held it in front of me, examining it with giddy interest. I started laughing in a weak and detached voice. I wanted to skip, and then fall down. My friends were looking at me with raised eyebrows. "What is wrong with you?" I could not concentrate on math. The numbers swam in front of my face. "I like like...like...a fish!" The words dribbled out of my mouth. I glanced up at t he clock. 8:11 am, and the room was spinning around me. Suddenly, the world looked like a photographic negative. I closed my eyes as things started turning black. "Maybe you should go to the nurse." I had not eaten breakfast.

I weaved my way down the hall to the nurse's office. How ironic. I had read about the negative effects of not eating breakfast, but I had never taken the articles to heart. But now I know from first-hand experience that eating a balanced breakfast is important for all students, because without the proper nutrients, the body and brain cannot function.

The brain runs on sugar, but that is not all it needs to function, according to school nurse Beth Quigley. Students also need protein to rebuild cells and grow, as well as starches, vitamins, and fats.

Sometimes, students are lucky if they can shove a pop tart into their mouths. As a result, some students choose to skip breakfast, using that time to blow dry hair or finish up last night's math homework.

"[Many students do not eat breakfast because] the bus comes too early or they cannot eat in the car," Quigley said.

Another reason why students, especially girls, may skip breakfast is to lose weight. However, this reason is counter-productive, because breakfast actually stimulates the body to wake up and burn calories after a night of slowed metabolism.

"At the beginning of the school year, I saw many students come into the clinic from around 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., complaining of tiredness, weakness, and headaches," Quigley said. "We can give them crackers, and that helps to stabilize their blood sugar, but students need to eat a good breakfast in the first place."

A balanced breakfast consists of many different areas of nutrition. These areas include milk, protein, fruit, and starches. Milk can be provided through a glass of milk, a bowl of cereal with milk, or some yogurt. Skim milk should be avoided because it fails to provide Vitamin D.

"Your body needs calcium, but it also needs fat to allow Vitamin D to enter your bloodstream," Quigley said. "You also need fat to coat y our nerves."

Protein can be provided through an egg or breakfast bar. Protein is necessary for the body to build muscle and repair itself. Fruits provide vitamins, which cannot be provided through vitamin supplements. Additionally, starches can be found in cereals and other grains, and is more important than sugar for the brain's fuel needs.

When deciding what to eat for breakfast, the most important thing to remember is to eat complex food that takes time for the body to digest. Coffee, candy, and pop are simple sugars rather than complex starches.

"[Simple sugars] raise blood sugar temporarily, but eventually the body's blood sugar crashes even lower than before, causing feelings of weakness," Quigley said.

The Junior Classical League and Hospitality Club have attempted to turn a need for breakfast into an opportunity for making profit. JCL sold Krispy Kreme glazed doughnuts and juice during ISTEP week, but found that they had little success. Hospitality Club sold Hot Pockets and other items and realized that they had more success than JCL did.

"Maybe it was because the product was perishable, or maybe it was because students did not want breakfast," JCL member Hari Vasu (9) said. "Maybe people just forgot to bring money."

Hospitality Club sold Hot Pockets and other items and realized that they had more success than JCL did.

"Ever since the clubs, especially Hospitality club, started selling breakfast, I noticed that fewer students came into the clinic complaining that they were hungry," Quigley said.

Despite the negative effects, nothing beats the glamour of a cup of coffee slurped in the morning hallway by a bleary-eyed student.

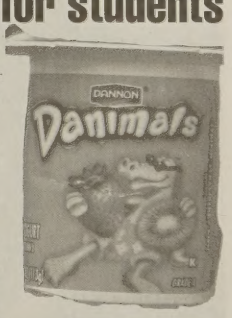
"I like Frappuchinos from Starbucks in the morning," Seth Daggar (12) said. "They wake me up, and taste really good."

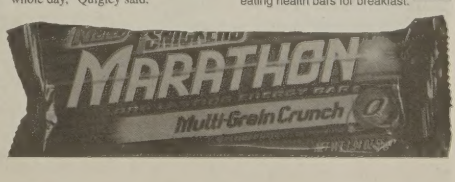
Unfortunately, coffee has excessive caffeine, which causes a mid-morning crash.

"You can still have coffee with whip cream and sprinkles if you love the taste, but switch to decaf," Quigley said. "Or for a healthier option with caffeine, try tea."

Beginning the day with a nutritious meal does not keep me more alert, it also keeps me more focused.

"When students eat a balanced breakfast, it gives them a good start for their whole day," Quigley said.

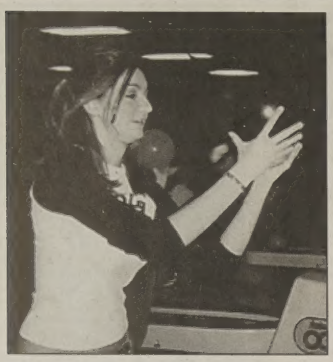




Yogurt provides adequate calcium, Vitamin A and Vitamin D. Below: Numerous students enjoy eating health bars for breakfast.

the Spartana
TRAVERSE

(trə-vûrs') v. To travel across, over, or through.



Above: Natalie Kuehnert (10) begins her bowling approach while eyeing the target. She and a group of friends amused themselves at Pro Bowl West. Right: Anthony Burgett approaches the lane at Kuehnert's bowling party. Many local bowling alleys run specials for teens to have parties at the bowling alley. For instance, when a certain number of bowlers is met the shoes may be free of charge.

Students bowl competitively, for leisure

Area bowling alleys convenient, cheap weekend hangout

tyler keena
designer

With the winter weather in full-swing and causing lack of outdoor activities for high school students, bowling has become a very popular weekend activity for teenagers around the area.

Bowling is not usually even mentioned in a list of the most popular sports in today's society. The traditional sports like baseball, basketball, and others continue to dominate in popularity. However, bowling's popularity is on the rise, especially among younger generations.

Bowling is, for the most part, an easy sport. Anybody can play, regardless of athletic ability. It is also very leisurely and laid-back. If you are not very talented, it only takes a few practice games or a quick lesson to improve your scores dramatically. Also, if you do not care about your scores and do not want to partake in bowling even semi-competitively, then bowling will be fun for you too. Don Ueber (11) enjoys bowling because of its noncompetitive nature.

"It's just something to do on the weekends that's fun and laid-back," said Ueber. "There are also ways to make bowling with your friends more competitive if it gets boring. It just never gets old."

Activities involved bowling range from a simple night out with your friends to a school team. Some teenagers also take part in a bowling league to perfect their game. More often than not, teenagers seem to flock to bowling alleys on the weekends for a night of fun with their friends.

In the Fort Wayne area, there are many bowling alleys that high school students frequent. The two most popular alleys are Westwood Lanes and Roanoke Lanes, both of which are located on Jefferson Road. Westwood Lanes has 32 bowling lanes and draws area "bowlers" because of its proximity, and its occasional "All You Can Bowl" special. This special takes place Sunday through Thursday and costs $6.50 for unlimited games for three hours. Students also get a twenty percent discount if they present their high school ID, which makes the offer even more enticing.

Roanoke Lanes has a slightly different look. Roanoke offers a more "down-home" type of alley. It offers only 10 lanes, but is still very popular on the weekends because it has cheaper prices on the most popular bowling days of Friday and Saturday. Don Ueber favors the atmosphere of Roanoke Lanes compared to others in the area.

"It's an old beat up barn," Ueber said. "Nothing fancy, just people throwing rocks (bowling)."

Another popular lane that is probably less known to Homestead students is Pro Bowl West. Pro Bowl West has 56 lanes. Because of the plethora of lanes, there is almost always a few lanes available. Also, lanes can be rented by the hour. This can be a cheaper way to bowl than paying per game. The only downside is the driving distance because the alley is located off Goshen Road. Pro Bowl West is also the alley used by the Homestead bowling team for their team practices.

Professional bowling is also rising in popularity. The Professional bowlers' Association (PBA) has several televised tournaments during their season, and they usually air on Sunday afternoons on ESPN in front of a national audience. The PBA is competitive bowling at its best. The matches showcase the best bowlers in the nation in extremely competitive tournaments with a large amount of cash on the line.

Bowling, although not as popular to play competitively as many sports, could become a very popular lifetime sport for this generation of teenagers. Tennis is the popular sport for the present older generation, but because of its lack of stress and physical prowess needed to play, bowling may soon become more popular.

Common terms

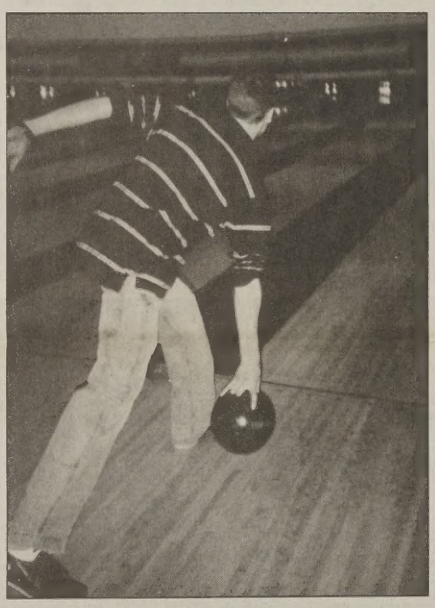
strike
knocking down all the pins on the first ball

spare
knocking down all the pins on the second ball

split
leaving two or more pins that are two pins away from one another

pocket
the space between the 1 pin and the 3 pin

brooklyn
the opposite side of the pocket



History of bowling

melanie kuehnert
entertainment editor

Bowling: rolling a stone at logs? The game of bowling goes ages back to the Stone Age when cavemen may have set up logs on end and threw stones at them. The idea of bowling not only dates back to the cavemen, but to the Egyptians. 7,000 years ago ancient Egyptians brought about round objects resembling bowling balls and marble bars.

The sport of bowling first came to America with the Dutch settlers. Later, the game was widely spread through Washington Irving's famous story about Rip Van Winkle.

The form of bowling we play today was first mentioned in a book about the city London, England, written over 800 years ago. Prior to 1455, bowling was strictly an outdoor game. In 1455, the first indoor track was installed in London. Bowling was a game for the nobility.

All throughout history, bowling was played with nine pins. The tenth pin was not added until the game's introduction in America. The myth of the tenth pin comes from a ruling by the Connecticut legislature which outlawed nine pins because of the widespread gambling in the game.

Bowling has advanced from manually setting up pins to the automatic pin-spotter in the 1940s. Moving up to automatic scoring and "bumpers," the industry of bowling appeals to over 72 million people. One out of every three Americans bowl.

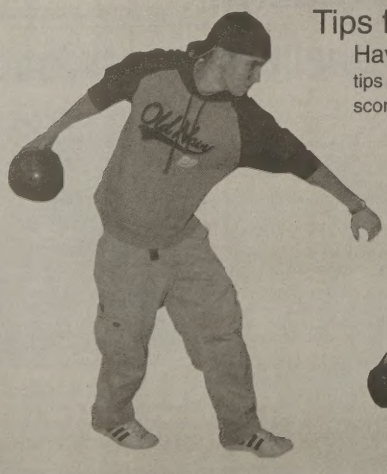
photos / melanie kuehnert

A lesson in bowling

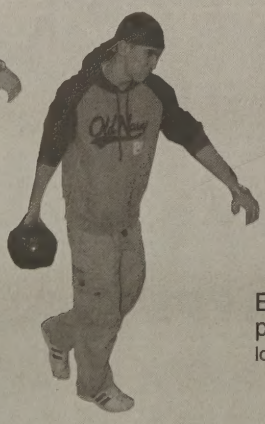
Steve Baker (12), member of the bowling team, helps The Spartana *in a lesson of bowling.*

Tips for Beginners

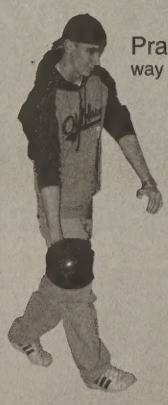
Have fun! If none of the other tips don't work to improve your score, don't stress about it.



Keep your eyes on the target. Your swing will align naturally.



Be aware of your body positioning. Let your arm swing loose, straight, and close to your body.



Practice. The most effective way to improve any skill.

Keep your shoulders square and back straight

Follow through.

Finish close to the foul line.

photos / zach hetrick

(ə-mălgə-māt') v.
to mix so as to make a unified whole; blend

the Spartana
AMALGAMATE

5c
March 12, 2004

"Gimp" Your Pics

sam stal
writer

Ever wanted to role play Michael Jackson's plastic surgeon? Or airbrush that appendix scar from your vacation photos? How about just cropping your ex out of a prom photo? These are just a few of the uses for a program called GIMP. GIMP stands for GNU Image Manipulation Program. It's comparable to Adobe Photoshop, but is free.

GIMP was (and is being) developed by a team of volunteer software developers and is classified as Open Source Software. This means that any programmer can easily customize the program or add supplemental code to it. Why does this matter? In short, it greatly increases the ease of use and features of the program. Most of the power of GIMP lies in plug-ins. Plug-ins are independent programs that GIMP calls upon to change the image. These small programs can change the look of an image from a photograph, to an oil painting, to a cartoon with only a few clicks of the mouse. It's amazingly addictive, and you don't need to spend a lot of time learning the software, as the layout is intuitive.

You may have seen GIMP in action if you are a Scooby-Doo fan. In 2002, the remake of the classic cartoon came out on film, starring Sarah Michelle Gellar. In case you haven't seen the movie, Scooby-Doo wasn't played by an actual dog, but was added electronically, with the help of a variation of GIMP simply called Film GIMP.

GIMP, like many open source software projects, started out small. The authors of the program, Spencer Kimball and Peter Mattis, were students at UC of Berkeley when they started GIMP. Eventually, with the help of volunteers, GIMP was improved to the point where it could be released to the public. That was in January of 1996, and needless to say, the program has been vastly improved since then.

If you are interested, go to www.gimp.org to download the program. There is a help guide at the site and a small gallery to view images created with GIMP. In addition to modifying digital images for fun, GIMP can help to improve scanned images by adjusting brightness, contrast, etc. So, check it out. It's free, easy to learn, and provides a good, quick laugh.

a Journey to Cebolla's Mexican Grill

zafar sayed
news editor

josh zurawski
sports and views editor

tyler keena
writer

For our first venture away from Jefferson Pointe, we three amigos (with a new Indian twist) traveled to our homeland - or something - Cebolla's Mexican Grill on Fernhill Avenue.

From our rendezvous point of Taco Bell at the Village of Times Corners, the trip took approximately 15 minutes by car. Upon our arrival, we entered by means of a gigantic door handle before being greeted by our friend Walter. He hastily led the way to a quaint booth and was rather surprised when we had not already made our drink choices on the walk to the table. After persuading Walter to step aside while we viewed the menu, we quickly decided upon our liquid.

Soon after, warm chips and salsa were brought our way, delighting our already grumbling tummies. We then requested an appetizer of Quèso dip to add to our enjoyment. The rich cheese sauce melted with the golden brown tortilla chips, producing an unmistakable flavor for only $2.99.

It was at that time that we noticed the flamboyant decorations behind our backs. Large tropical birds adorned tables, chairs, and seats, as if to say "Caw!". Other colorful flowers, fruits, and vegetables were decorating the other tables throughout Cebolla's.

At that point, the omnipresent Walter had already asked us four times what we would like to order. We saw him pacing back and forth, yet we averted our eyes to buy time. When nobody could decide, Walter stepped in and took charge. He suggested the Tijuana's Enchiladas for Zafar, the Steak Quesodilla for Josh, and the Cebolla's Steak for Tyler. Our culturally blind friend Tyler did realize when he asked for no onions with his meal, that cebolla means onion in Spanish. Typical.

We waited 10-15 minutes for our well-proportioned meals. During this time, we witnessed several of the employees singing customers their authentic happy birthday songs, while placing a large, decorated sombrero upon the head of the birthday-person. We enjoyed seeing and hearing this cultural sight during our short wait.

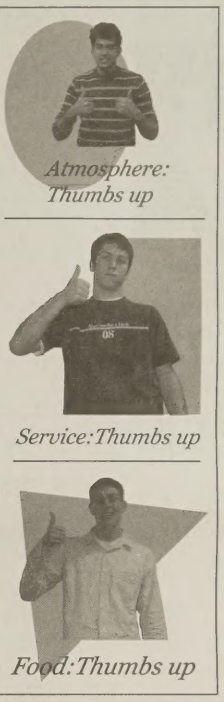
Shortly thereafter, all of the food arrived and it was delicious, draped in authentic sauces and spices. The large meals could easily have fed two people apiece.

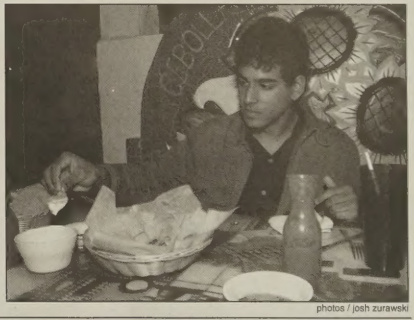
After devouring the entrees, we took a second look at the menu for a dessert. We decided on fried ice cream. It arrived shortly and we loved it. It consisted of a cinnamon sugar bowl-like shell with the fried ice cream and a cherry in the inside of the shell.

Before leaving the restaurant, we were confronted by Walter, the waiter/photographer, about our camera that we were carrying. He wanted to know every little detail, making us feel like a true patron. We explained the purpose of the camera, paid our bill, and left.

Cebolla's is reasonably priced, with entrees ranging from $7.99 (enchiladas) to $14.99 (Cebolla's Steak, even without the cebollas).

With its warm and colorful atmosphere, inviting staff, and authentic Mexican cuisine, Cebolla's promises to be an enjoyable outing for anyone.





Above: The interior of Cebolla's is decorated with Mexican accents. The traditional Mexican decorations add to the overall atmosphere at Cebolla's. Above Right: Tyler Keena (11) eats a Cebolla's steak dinner. Along with his steak, he received cheese, lettuce, tomatoes, and sour cream to make tortillas as well as fried rice. Right: Zafar Sayed (12) enjoys the atmosphere of Cebolla's Mexican Grill while trying the restaurant's golden brown tortilla and cheese sauce appetizer. This appetizer was available for the low price of $2.99. Left: Sam Stahl (10) uses the program "GIMP" to enhance this photo of himself. The pictures show the before and after effects that the program is able to produce.

photos / josh zurawski

"Passion of the Christ" sparks heavy controversy

kasey butcher
associate news editor

Every so often a movie comes out and the whole world stops to take a look. It takes an extraordinary film that touches a nerve and gets a little too close to our flaws, our past, or our beliefs. *The Passion of the Christ* is one of those films.

The Passion follows Jesus of Nazareth's final hours on earth, intertwining the story of his arrest, trial, sentencing, scourging, and crucifixion with flashes of his life and teachings.

This movie is intense. It is awesomely terrifying. On the one hand, I was in wonder as the stories I have heard over and over again came to life on the screen. On the other hand, I was terrified by the violence and the cruelty that a group of human beings inflicted on a man. The movie is violent, that can not be denied. If a person is old enough and mature enough to understand what the film is trying to convey, however, I think the violence is permissible. It is even slightly counteracted by the many beautiful moments that make up this film. As Jesus goes through his "punishment" he shows complete humility and still, through it all, love. Some of the most tear jerking moments come from his interactions with people like Veronica, John, Pilot, and especially Mary. One of the images from this film that will stay with me for an extremely long time is when Jesus is falling for the second time under the cross. As Mary sees her son fall, she remembers watching him fall as a small child. Simultaneously, the images of her running to comfort her little boy, and her running to comfort her grown son are shown. Poignantly, as she was able to comfort a young Jesus, she is not allowed to comfort him now. It is moments like this that bring the real humanity to this film.

The Passion is gut wrenching and painful to watch, but at the same time it touches on the concepts and emotions that so many people hold dear. I think that to see this movie, one must see it in the theater with an audience. Watching it at home in my living room would not have had the same affect as watching it with other people. It is such a humanizing movie. It made me ashamed of myself, but at the same time, it made me feel loved and wanting to love others better. The theater also has a certain degree of reverence that my living room does not. It was black and utterly silent aside from the sobs and gasps of the audience.

Mel Gibson has done an incredible thing. My dad called the movie a "gift to believers." I give Mr. Gibson a lot of respect and praise for even making the film. This was a project that he *could not* have messed up. The consequences would have been to great. I think it took a lot of courage and a whole lot of faith in his own abilities to attempt the film and his bravery paid off.

This movie truly is, however, really intended for those of the Christian faith. A background in the story is practically a prerequisite to watching the film. Many of the references, or flashbacks, are so subtle that someone who does not know the New Testament will not understand.

As for the whole anti-semitism controversy, anyone who came out of this movie feeling any kind of hate completely and inexcusably missed the point.

Overall, *The Passion* is a chilling, intense, and brutally beautiful piece of work that is justified in gaining the world's attention.

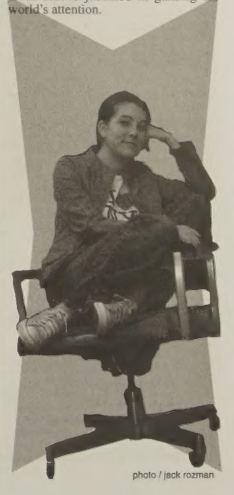


photo / jack rozman

Why does wool shrink in water and sheep do not?

greg karidas
business manager

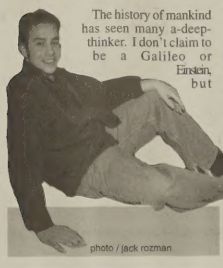


photo / jack rozman

The history of mankind has seen many a-deep-thinker. I don't claim to be a Galileo or Einstein, but occasionally I give the wonders of the world some thought.

While I was trying to fall asleep one night, all these random thoughts were going through my mind. Sleep, I needed to sleep. So I started counting sheep. Beautiful creatures, jumping over a fence in the rain. Then it hit me. Sheep! Rain! Holy mother, the sheep will shrink in the rain!

There was no way I was going to let my little gyro producing friends shrink. I stopped counting immediately and started researching sheep, wool, and shrinkage. This is what I discovered.

According to the smartest girl in San Francisco, sheep don't shrink because they aren't sweaters. It's much deeper than that, though. They don't shrink, they droop. But why, you ask? Sheep have a water-repellent lanolin in their wool. So, when it rains, they have a natural water-repellent coat. That's the general idea, but for a more in-depth idea, I turned to a University of Leeds graduate student with a Ph. D. in Plasmid Molecular Biology.

The more scientific answer to the problem is that wool doesn't actually shrink, it felts. According to Woolwise, the raised scales of the cuticle layer of the fiber catch on one another, causing wool to felt. The fibers in a fleece on a sheep are all growing out of the follicles in the same direction and usually at the same rate. So. The cuticle scales (which are like teeth on a saw, but not as sharp) are all pointed in the same direction. Because of this, they don't catch onto one another.

When making a sweater though, the fibers are spun together in an interlocking nature. This is what keeps the yarn together. Felting occurs in the presence of heat, water, and agitation. This acts as the ratchet and tightening of the contact between the fibers of yarn. Sweater developers are using shrink-proofing, which is a chemical treatment that uses chlorine to "burn" off the wools scales.

After figuring all this out, I went right back into my bed and started counting sheep again. I felt so much better then when I counted sheep, knowing that they wouldn't shrink. I shared this with the grandpa while he was roasting a lamb in the front yard for my family of fifty-some cousins. And the man of many words responded with "eh, good." If a PETA member is reading this, close your eyes. Lamb is good, ask the gyro man.

the Spartana ADVANTAGEOUS

(ăd'văn-tā'j əs) adj. affording benefit or gain; useful

Governmental Affairs

Annie Baenen (9) and Larry Buchanan (9) attended the Indiana General Assembly as "pages for a day" for state Senator David Long at the Indiana State House

larry buchanan
designer

annie baenen
intern writer

photo illustration / zach hetrick

Most people hear about their state government when a new bill is passed or when something big happens in the government. In our case, we had the opportunity to see the state government in action.

We were Senate "Pages" for a day, which basically means we were pagers to the Senators. When there was a message to be delivered, we were the ones to do it.

We first took a tour of the building, learning the unusual floor pattern of all the Senator's offices so we could deliver messages to the appropriate Senator. There were many offices and delivering the messages got confusing sometimes.

After the tour, we started delivering messages. The Senate General Assembly started at 1:30 p.m., which is where we would see the passage of bills through the Senate.

The meeting hadn't begun yet when we walked in at 1:30. We questioned where all the Senators were. There were only a few in their designated seats, and there were a lot of people up moving around and talking. We each had a floor map of where the Senators sat. So, if the doorman gave us a note for them, would know where they were.

The meeting was about to begin and still people were standing up milling around. The meeting began with more than half the Senators missing, but it didn't look like anyone cared. Eventually, they all showed up.

Our first job was to locate our senator, Mr. David Long. We introduced ourselves, and received a package of information regarding the senate, Indiana, and our job as pages.

At the fall of the gavel, the first readings began. The first readings were all of the bills that are being proposed. There is a verbal vote on every bill, but only objections are taken. The head chairman will say, "Any objections?" and if no one says anything, the bill is put on second reading.

Like an auctioneer trying to get rid of a car, the speaker starts talking. He speeds through reading all of the bills, pausing for a moment after reading each one to catch his breath to start the next bill. There were many bills on first reading.

A bill has to go through 3 stages in the Senate: first, second, and third reading. In the second reading, the bill is taken more seriously, and a verbal vote is made to determine if there are any objections. The third reading is where the Senate really gets serious. On the third reading, each Senator is called by name and is asked to present his/her bill if he/she have one to present. If not he/she does not want to present a bill they can pass or yield his/her turn to another Senator. After the bill is explained, questions are answered. Then an electronic vote takes place. Every Senator has a red button and a green button on his/her desk. Green is for the bill, and red is against the bill.

During the readings of the bills, secretaries and stenographers would bring us notes folded in half with a Senator's name on it. We then had to take it to the Senator it was addressed to. We were very fortunate to be at the Senate on this day because our Senator was working on a bill and was going to present it.

There were a number of bills being read and voted on that day, and each of them took a considerable amount of time. The bill that raised the most controversy was the bill on bullying as a type of harassment in high schools.

During the reading of this bill, different senators with different opinions rose and argued about why this bill should or should not be passed. This bill took about 45 minutes to get through, but in the end, it was passed. The senators sitting around us were very interested in hearing our opinions about this. Senator C. Meeks asked us how we felt about the problem of bullying in high school and asked if we would vote yes or no.

Sitting in on the Senate and hearing the discussions and the first readings were fascinating. It was really fun because we were allowed to be a part of the process and get involved. Delivering the notes for the Senators was our main priority, but every once in a while we got a chance to listen in on the discussions. It was really interesting to hear what the different Senators had to say and to see how different Senators from different counties viewed things.

At the end of the day, we said good-bye to our awesome tour guides and the rest of our pager friends that we had made that day. We both had an awesome time, learned a lot, and it was a truly unforgettable experience.

Stages of a Bill

1st: Government considers proposed legislation
2nd: Draft Bill submitted to Cabinet for approval
3rd: Introduction and first reading of Bill (only the title is read)
4th: Second reading of Bill (debate on general merits and principles of Bill)
5th: Committee Stage (detailed consideration of Bill, clause by clause)
6th: Third reading of Bill (Senator proposing Bill reads it and an electronic vote is taken)
7th: Bill is sent to the house and is voted on

photos courtesy / larry buchanan, carly baenen

Left: In the tour of the State House, Larry and Annie were able to see the age-old architecture in the building. Some of the rooms are in the process of being restored to their original state when it the building was built. The first restoration of the State House took place in 1988, 100 years after it was built
Bottom Right: Larry Buchanan and Annie Beanen pose with their tour guide, Michael J. Frank. Frank has been giving tours for the Senate Pages for a couple of years.
Bottom Left: In the State House, there are very few original chandeliers from when the building was built. New lights were added to both the Senate and the House chambers. All of the renovations will soon be completed.

the SPARTANA

Homestead High School 4310 Homestead Rd Fort Wayne, IN 46814

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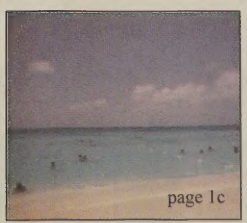


page 1c

National grand champions

photos / zach hetrick

Varsity dance proclaimed national grand champions in Orlando

evan childers
writer

The Homestead Varsity Dance Team returned triumphantly this week from the national dance competition in Orlando, Florida, where the team was crowned National Champions. The team's performance afforded them a first place finish in Jazz competition and a second place finish in Lyrical competition. Homestead's Dance Team, led by teacher Jennifer Bay, was subsequently honored with the designation of Grand Champion by the Ameridance organization, which hosts the competition annualy at Disney World. The girls competed at the Wide World of Sports, which is a Disney stadium, last Sunday.

"I just wanted to give the audience and judges something to remember."

-Adrienne Ahee (11)

"We didn't expect it at all," Dancer Betsy Peoples (11) said. "We were just going down to nationals to have fun. When they announced grand champion we weren't even paying attention. We were definitely not expecting to win first place."

National competition was a challenging experience for the team. In addition to competing in a field that included 64 total performances, Homestead's squad also had to compete against professional studio teams.

"Everything about Nationals was difficult. The stage is different, the judges are different, the whole atmosphere is foreign," Peoples said.

Despite the difficulties, the team persevered.

"We beat everyone," Peoples said with a smile.

The dance team's previous performances throughout the course of the year have already won them numerous honors, including a first place finish in the lyrical division of the State Competition. The team's hard work and team spirit allowed them to finish the year in a big way.

"We worked really well as a team because there weren't little cliques. Everyone got along well as a single, large group," Peoples said.

In addition to the prestige of winning the competition, the team was awarded with honorary red jackets, medals, and a trophy. The team was also presented with $1500 to be put towards the dance program at Homestead.

Several individuals that competed in solos or duets also found success. Homestead's Adrienne Ahee (11) placed first in the Varsity Solo competition out of 22 competing soloists.

"Going into the competition I wasn't really expecting anything," Adrienne Ahee (11) said. "I really wanted to come off the floor feeling like I had danced my best. I knew that if I gave my best performance, I would be happy no matter what the outcome was."

"I had such a great experience at Nationals. I love the feeling of performing for people. I just wanted to give the audience and judges something to remember," Ahee said.

Katie Johnston (11) placed second in Solo competition, and Alex Kruse (10) placed fourth. The team's amazing success in this category is a testament to the team members' individual abilities. In addition to the honors the team won in solo competition, the duet team of Katie Johnston and Alex Kruse placed first in Duet competition.

"We worked really hard on our dance all year," Johnston said about the duet. "It was nice to end the season on a high note. We [Katie and Alex] have a great time dancing together."

Aside from the competition, the team went to Florida to celebrate a long and successful year of dance. The team stayed in the All Star Resort in Disney World, and attended the Magic Kingdom, the Epcot Center, MGM, and Typhoon Lagoon on Friday and Saturday before the competition.

"That trip was the best vacation I've ever had," Peoples said.

For the team's seniors, the first place finish is a special way to conclude their final year as a part of Homestead's team.

"It was really awesome for them [the seniors], to end the year with a national championship," Peoples said.

Family and friends supported the Dance Team throughout the season and welcomed their success at nationals.

"Dancing isn't so much a sport, as it is a way of life for some people," Neel Patel (11) said. His sister, Nishi Patel (10) is a member of the Junior Varsity team. "They [the dance team] went out there and really did a nice job of representing Homestead at the competition."

The victory at nationals already has many HHS dance members looking forward to the possibilities of next year.

"I can't wait for next year," Peoples said. "The team is a group of girls that are my best friends, and I don't know what I'd do without them. Dancing with them is so much fun."

Above: The team arrives home Monday, March 29 with a fire truck escorting them. They circled the parking lot in the bus and then stood on the fire truck for pictures and applause. Below: Katie Johnston (11) laughs as she arrives home.

EarthFest increases ecological awareness, raises funds

rohith iyer
associate copy editor

Student and staff musical acts, food, and activities, will be the highlights of Earth Week and the second annual EarthFest. Earth Week will be from May 10-14, and EarthFest will be held on May 13.

EarthFest will feature musical acts by various staff and student groups, and will be held on the Homestead north lawn. All students are welcome to attend. On the day of EarthFest, students may participate in a community service walk-a-thon during their Social Studies class.

Student Government is organizing the second annual EarthFest to celebrate the Earth and to raise money for the benefit of the entire community. All proceeds collected from EarthFest will be donated to Aboite New Trails, an organization aiming to outline the entire Aboite area with paths and trails.

Through this path and trail program, Aboite New Trails hopes to promote an active recreational lifestyle that takes advantage of the outdoor environment.

The costs for the Aboite New Trails program will be raised through ticket sales from EarthFest, the Social Studies Department's community service walk-a-thon, and through other methods of fund-raising in and around the Aboite community.

Students also have the opportunity to design a t-shirt for EarthFest. A contest is now being held, and students must submit their ideas for a possible EarthFest t-shirt design by April 12. The designer of the winning t-shirt will receive a $25 gift certificate to Jefferson Pointe, and a free t-shirt with his design on it. Shirts with the winning design will be available for purchase at EarthFest.

Joel Achenbach (10), serves as the Public Relations Officer on the EarthFest Committee.

"EarthFest is a great way to raise money for the community," Achenbach said. "Its really a lot of fun, and at the same time, it helps us remember the importance of the Earth."

the Spartana PITHY

(pith'e) adj. concisely meaningful

Spartan Briefs

5th Annual Arts Week

The 5th annual arts week will be begining on April 26 and going on through April 30. Arts week features art works made and created by students. During this week an art gallery will be created in the community room. There the works of students will be displayed as well as put on sale. In addition, different fine arts departments, including instrumental and vocal music, drama, and dance will be performing during the week.

Advanced Placement

Students who are taking advanced placement courses have the opportunity to advanced placements tests. The tests which are scored from 5 to 1, give students the opportunity to test out and receive credit for classes they may have had to take at college. Students who are planning on taking the advanced placement tests should keep in mind that testing dates are rapidly approaching. Students can talk to teachers for advice on how to prepares for the rigorous tests.

C.A.R.E. Shop

The Special Education class is participating in a national project known as "Beanies for Baghdad." The United States military is going to hand out about 500 beanies a week to children residing in Iraqi. The CARE shop will collect gently used or new beanies, school supplies, or small stuffed animals the week of March 22 to April 2. Collection boxes will be present in the cafeteria. The Special Needs students will be packing the items and mailing the beanies to the military. For any questions concerning the project contact Tanya Hack at 431 - 2870.

Girls and Boys State

Junior boys and girls who are interested in studying and learning more about federal, state, and local government and would like to meet and work with other juniors from across Indiana should pay close attention to the announcements for information about State.

Some information regarding the State conferences will also be kept in Student Services. Schools from across Indiana choose representatives for both Boys' and Girls' State. Applications for the programs will be available in Student Services soon. After the forms are filled, a committee of teachers, counselors, and administrators will interview candidates for both programs.

Last year Homestead sent five boys and two girls to their respective conventions. Local American Legion Posts pays for the all the expenses for students from Homestead except for transportation two and from Indiana State.

Hospitality Club

Students interested in exploring careers in the hospitality industry including hotel, restaurant, and tourism management are encouraged to sign up for the Hospitality Club. As an affiliate of the IPFW HTM Club the Hospitality Club gives students a chance to connect with chefs and managers as they participate in the IPFW Dinners Series and other community events. The IPFW students in the Dinners Series class are responsible for designing the menus and themes with the chef, preparing meals and table service and serving at the events. Member of the Hospitality Club had the opportunity to assist in various ways.

Homework Hotline

The Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology's Homework Hotline offers a free tutoring service in the area of math and science for Indiana students in grades 6 - 12. Students can call the toll free phone number 1-877-ASK-Rose from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Sunday through Thursday. The Homework Hotline tutors help students work though tough problems and improve problem solving skills.

Office Depot

Since 2000 the Office Depot has donated money to schools across America. When students and families participate in Office Depot's "5% Back to Schools" program, Homestead is given 5% of the proceeds, for all eligible items. Homesteads unique school identification number is 70035990 if students and families use this code when purchasing items from Office Depot, Homestead has the ability to receive credits for free supplies at the store.

Key Club

Although it's getting towards the end of the year Key Club is still accepting new members. Members of Key Club have the opportunity to volunteer and help those around the community. To sign up come to the one of the meetings which are held on Thursdays after school, from 2:50 pm to 3:15 pm.

Take an editor to prom

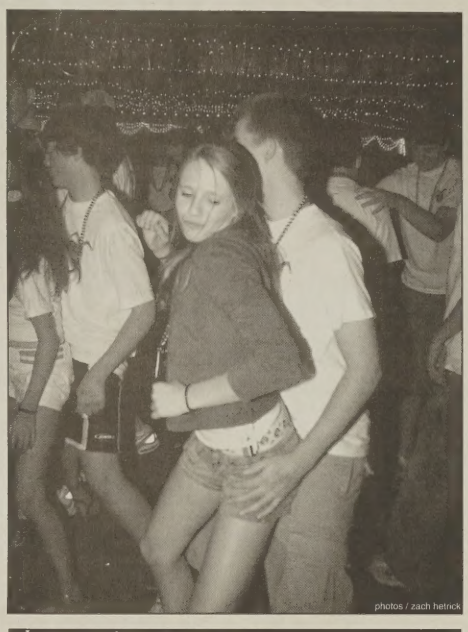
Editors from the *Spartana* will be up for grabs during "take an to prom" day. Students who would like to go to prom with one of those special editors on the *Spartana* staff can write letters about what makes a good prom date. The letter will be judged on their creativity, sincerity, and the letters grammatical content. The winners will be announced on April 19 on the announcements.

Calendar

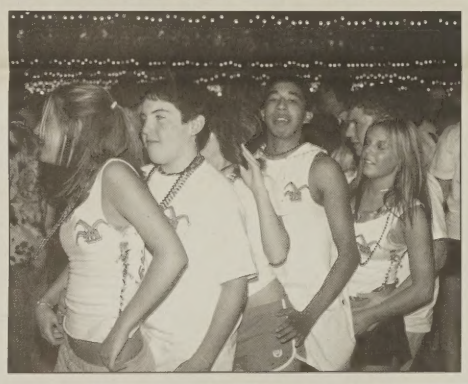
4.5-9 Spring Break 4.12 School resumes 4.20 Orchestra Spring Concert 4.20 Speech Meet at North Central High School 4.22 Band Spring Concert 4.22 Just Because Week 4.19-23 National Latin Week 4.23 Earth Fest 4.26-30 Fine Arts Week

Mardi Gras madness

MORP festivities recreate a night known for dancing, music, friends



photos / zach hetrick



sarah kennedy
writer

MORP: a strange word to some, but a practical word to those who know why it is called what it is. MORP is commonly known as a dance for Homestead in which the students can dance the night away in a special MORP t-shirt that follows a new theme each year. MORP is actually prom spelled backwards, and is a fun way to raise money for the prom each year. Not only that, but it is a dance where a girl is supposed to ask a guy to be her date. So really, MORP is all around backwards.

The theme for this year was Mardi Gras, and the shirt came complete with colored masks, beads, and jester hat. The dance this year, like other years, was held at Hilgers Farm Market. The dance took place in the building behind the market, which consisted of a large dance floor and bathrooms. As students arrived, they were greeted at the door by parents and teachers that handed them Mardi Gras beads for the dance. Each student received two beads, one with a SADD pin on the beads. The dance floor was filled with balloons, and the D J was on the opposite end of the dance floor from the entrance. Parents were handing out water to thirsty students, and fans were directed towards the dance floor to keep the room from getting too hot.

"MORP was really fun this year, I enjoyed dancing with all my friends and even though it got really hot during the dance, they were handing out water to everybody so it wasn't that bad," Nishi Patel (10) said.

The DJ played a selection of rap and pop songs for the students, throwing in a slow song every once in a while. Students mingled on the dance floor and danced with their dates, along with other friends.

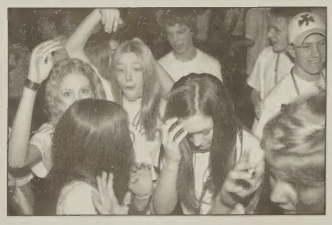
"I had a great time at MORP this year. It was the first time I have been to one and it was the best dance so far. I really liked the idea of Mardi Gras, and I liked the shirts as the ticket into the dance," Kevin Nowak (9) said.

The dance was from 8:00 to 12:00 on Friday night, and allowed students to leave anytime they wanted to. However, students were not allowed to re-enter the dance after they had left. Some students went to eat after the dance, while others left for parties or home.

"Well I had fun (at MORP), it was most definitely the greatest party I ever saw," Luke Gilpin (10) said, referring to this year's slogan.

The dance floor at MORP was packed with Homestead students, and the dance proved to be a great turn out. Students hope that the dance next year will be just as successful as it was this year.

Top left: Taylor Klein (9) dances with date. Left: Mallory Warren (10), Neal Rifkin (10), Bryon Glaze (10), Sonya Dister (10), and Brian Rosenblatt (10) all dance in a line. Below far left: A group of freshmen dance together at Hilgers. Below left: David Studinski, a former Homestead student, DJ's for the dance. Below right: An overview of the students that attended MORP.



Exchange students enter foriegn territory

French pupils visit abroad with SACS; live with local families

puja parikh
designer

Its something many of us would dread to do. Something that requires courage and curiosity, as absurd as this combination sounds. On Saturday, April 17, six foreign exchange students from France will be here at Homestead to experience the American culture and traditions for two weeks.

This exchange of cultures was organized by Mrs. Ferkel, a French I and French II teacher here at Homestead. Five years ago, Mrs. Ferkel was part of another foreign exchange program through Indiana University's honors program. She spent two weeks in Orleans in France at the house of Mrs. Fouchet. While touring French schools with Mrs. Fouchet, she met Mrs. Gouchet, and the two struck up a friendship that has now made it possible for five French students to come to the US.

While this is the first time Mrs. Ferkel and Mrs. Gouchet have been part of such a foreign exchange program, they both have high hopes. "While this is a great opportunity for the French students, it is also a great opportunity for us here at Homestead," said Mrs. Ferkel. "How often do you get to talk to a French person? And the great thing is that we get to see these students again when we go to France this summer."

During her visit to France this spring break, Mrs. Ferkel will get to meet these students. "I'm really excited. All of these French kids are Mrs. Gouchet's students except for one, who is her cousin."

When asked about some of her expectations for these students she said, "I hope their English will improve and go back to France with a more realistic view about what America is like. Kids in France right now think that everyone in America is rich and that we are all gang members. The kids need to get rid of this stereotype."

Many of the French students who come here will experience cultural shock. According to Mrs. Ferkel, they will be surprised by the "big things," like skyscrapers. They should also be surprised by how wealthy we are. Also, they will be surprised that our schools are so technologically advanced. In France, even report cards are handwritten. Another thing the kids will be in awe of is the fact that many teenagers drive to school. This is unheard of in France.

These French students will stay at the homes of Homestead students that will be traveling to France this summer. These students have been corresponding with each other via e-mail. The French students will be staying in the US for two weeks, so they will be staying at two houses. "I hope to make these long term friendships," said Mrs. Ferkel.

At a time when France and the United States are experiencing numerous conflicts, students from France, thanks to Mrs. Ferkel and Mrs. Gouchet, will be able to show us a little of the French perspective on the world.

New Visitors

1. *Pierre*
2. *Alexandre*
3. *Adèle*
4. *Matthieu*
5. *Thomas*
6. *Maxime*

the Spartana
INTEGRATE
(in ti-grat) v. To join with something else; unite

Sadd, NAND host drug-free party at Buckets

Off-campus events part of long-term plan for a drug-free student body

kasey butcher
associate news editor

Sunday, March 14, two local anti-drug organizations teamed up to host an evening of music, food and fun for Homestead students. NAND (No Alcohol, No Drugs) and SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions) sponsored the evening at Buckets Sports Bar and Grill. For a cover charge of five dollars, students gained access to all the wings and pizza they could eat and a never-ending cup of any nonalcoholic beverage.

At the door, students were asked to complete a five question true or false quiz (see "SADD Quiz" below) about the tobacco industry and other issues concerning teenage health and safety. Those who correctly answered all the questions were entered into a drawing for over twenty prizes including Fort Wayne Freedom tickets and t-shirts, Medium Pizzas from Pizza Hut with two movie passes to Rave, SADD t-shirts, lanyards, and hats. Students had to be present to win.

Entertainment for the evening was provided by a student band, The Graffenburgs, including Alex Kroh (12), Trent Gard (11), John Blevins (11), Brooks Frederickson (11), and Matt Corral (12).

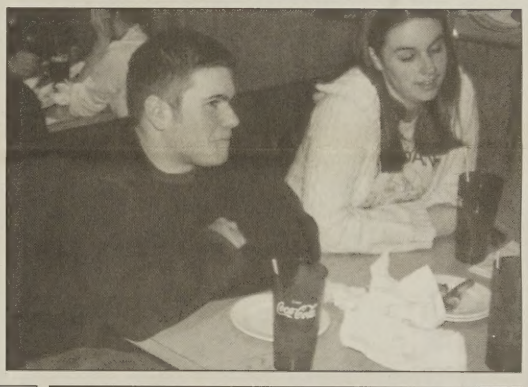
"I think [the party] was a success," SADD President Rachel Johnson (12) said. "It brought in a lot more people than the regular SADD people. I think the band helped a lot."

Events like the party at Buckets are part of a long-term plan, proposed earlier this year, for Southwest Allen County Schools to boast a one-hundred percent drug and alcohol-free student body by the year 2009, five years from now. Through the plan, the school will team up with local businesses to promote a drug-free lifestyle for all students. The plan includes more drug-free activities for students off the school campus, encouraging businesses that hire students to practice drug tests and sobriety rules for employees, and increased activities of organizations such as NAND and SADD.

"This is only our second year of SADD and the NAND task force is really helping us get our name out there." Johnson said. "I think it helps a lot that there are other groups out there getting in on [keeping students drug-free]."

On Tuesday, March 23 from 7-8:30 p.m., a seminar for parents on how to keep their teenagers drug and alcohol-free was held in the Homestead Community room. All parents of students grades 5-12 were invited to hear talks by experts from police detectives, mental health professionals, and the school social worker. The meeting also provided a forum for parents to discuss teenage drug-use with their peers.

photos / meg williams



Top: The Graffenburgs play at the SADD party March 14. The band includes John Blevins (11), Trent Gard (11), Alex Kroh (12), Brooks Frederickson (11), and Matt Corral (12). Left: Students Justin Medert (11) and Madeline Shike (11) chat while enjoying drinks and music. The cover charge of $5 granted students all- they-could- drink of any nonalcoholic beverage. Right: Alex Kroh plays the drums while Matt Corral plays the keyboard. The student band provided entertainment for the evening. Bottom: Kelly Harman (10) and Julie Kaste (10) enjoy spending time together while attending the party.

SADD Quiz

*Forty percent of teenage girls ages 14 to 17 report knowing someone their age who has been hit or beaten by a boyfriend.

*One 12-ounce beer has as much alcohol as a 1.5-ounce shot of whiskey or a 5-ounce glass of wine.

*Nearly 20 percent of all adolescents report using inhalants at least once in their lives.

*Human lips cover most of the holes on filtered cigarettes making the filter almost worthless.

*The tobacco industry spends an estimated $8.24 billion a year on advertising and marketing which is about $22.5 million a day.

Answers: all statements are true.

Former special education teacher Pamela Fulford pleads guilty to battery charges

manasee atre
copy editor

On March 9, former Homestead special education teacher Pamela Fulford pleaded guilty to two counts of battery stemming from the battering of two special needs students in 2002 and 2003. During the unscheduled hearing in Allen Superior Court, she was sentenced to 18 months' probation.

Fulford was first sentenced to 18 months of prison on the first count of battery and 180 days in jail on the second count. However, Magistrate Robert Schmoll suspended both sentences and gave Fulford the probation instead.

As part of her plea bargain, Fulford will be required to undergo a psychological evaluation and treatment and also go through anger management counseling during her probation. These terms of probation were specifically outlined in the plea agreement.

Fulford was originally charged with a felony count and a misdemeanor count of battery. However, because Fulford pleaded guilty on Friday, the felony count was reduced to a misdemeanor count as part of the plea bargain.

Fulford was charged with the two counts of battery because of two separate incidences. First, in October 2002, Fulford is alleged to have slapped a boy in wheelchair, and she slapped the boy so hard that drool came out of his mouth and fell on another student. Then, in March 2003, Fulford is alleged to have slapped a blind and severely mentally retarded girl and hold her hand to the table after the girl threw some milk on the floor.

"Everything that happened to Fulford is sad, but since she did admit to hitting those students, she deserves her punishment."

-Katy Weeks

After the March 2003 battery, Fulford was suspended from work with pay and told not to return to work unless asked to. A few weeks later, Fulford resigned from Homestead.

Fulford is not commenting on her guilty plea or sentence. Some students at Homestead, however, do have opinions on the matter.

"Everything that happened to Fulford is sad," Katy Weeks (12) said. "But, since she did admit to hitting those students, she deserves her punishment."

Take an Editor *to* PROM

Write a short essay about ***what makes a good prom date*** *and submit it to room 620 by* ***Friday, April 16****. Winner(s) will be selected by the Spartana staff and announced April 19.* ***Grand Prize*** *is a date to the prom with a Spartana editor or associate editor.*

the Spartana EXALT

(eg-zolt') v. to glorify, praise, or honor

Advanced Spanish classes combine art, Hispanic culture study

Foreign Language students visit Detroit Institute of Arts, explore Mexican Town on Bagley Street

jessica bird
writer

The Detroit Institute of Arts features some of the finest Mexican muralist work in the United States. This includes work by Diego Rivera (1886-1957), specifically his famous murals entitled The Detroit Industry Frescoes. Homestead Spanish teachers Janice King and Angela Wood recently took their fourth and fifth year Spanish students to tour The Detroit Institute of Arts. While there, the students learned about how history, biology, technology, manufacturing, and Spanish culture are related.

"[We wanted students to learn] about the different aspects of the world and how they come together," King said.

The museum is primarily focused around the work of Diego Rivera. In the 1930s, Rivera was well known in the United states as one of the leaders of the Mexican muralist movement. He was commissioned to decorate the walls of what was at the time called the Garden Court. At first, Rivera was only asked to paint two of the largest panels of the museum, but taken with Detroit and the Ford Motor Company's Rough, he ended up painting murals on all four walls. The project took Rivera eight months to complete.

In foreign language classes at Homestead, much more is studied than grammar. The forth and fifth year Spanish students have been studying the Mexican murals in class as well as culture of Spanish speaking people.

Before Rivera's success, he studied in Spain in 1907. Four years later, he moved to Paris, where he stayed for ten years. In Paris, he became part of the circle of artists and intellectuals who lived and worked in the area of Montparnasse. In 1920, he received a commission to paint for the new Mexican government. He traveled throughout Italy while studying Early Christian and Byzantine mosaics. Rivera completed eight major murals in Mexico on historical subjects between 1921 and 1930.

> "[We wanted students to learn] about the different aspects of the world and how they come together."
>
> -Janice King, Spanish Teacher

Dr. William Valentiner, Director of the Detroit Institute of Arts, had seen Rivera's work in Mexico and met him in California. Valentiner proposed to the Arts Commission that Rivera create two large murals for the museum. Edsel Ford, president of the Arts Commission and the Ford Motor Company, offered to fund the $20,899 project.

The east wall of the Detroit Industry Frescoes was where Rivera began his work. On this wall, he wanted to represent the origins of human life and of technology. Detailed in the mural is an infant that is cradled in the bulb of a plant. Two steel plowshares appear in the lower corners of this panel, which is covered by nude females holding fruit and sheaves of wheat. The child in the plant represents a "germ cell" that not only signifies life's origin and human dependence on land, but also its central position. Rivera's belief was that the art museum is the essential organism for the development of the aesthetic culture of the community. The themes of dependence on the resources of the land and the evolution of technology are shown throughout the fresco cycle. This wall was painted in 1932 and is 13.11 x 15.24 m.

The west wall continues the same themes as the east wall. A half-face/half-skull is painted in the center panel which symbolizes both the coexistence of life and death, as well as humanity's spiritual and physical aspects. Between the face/skull is a star. The star represents aspirations and hope for civilization, another of Rivera's themes - the dual qualities of human beings, of nature, and of technology. On either side of the face/skull are men working. On the skull side is a rubber tree plantation, representing the interdependence of the industrial north and agrarian south. On the face side is men doing work with machines, not by hands. This wall was painted in 1932-1933 and is 13.11 x 15.24 m.

The north and south walls are devoted to three sets of images: the representation of the races, the automobile industry, and the industries of Detroit (medical, pharmaceutical, and chemical). Figures representing the four races hold raw materials, and between them are gigantic hands grasping materials used in the production of steel. This symbolizes both the mining and the aggressive drive to capture the riches of the earth in general. At the bottom of the north and south walls are small panels which depict a day in the life of the workers by incorporating various scenes of daily life. The north wall was painted in 1933 and is 13.11 x 20.42 m. The south wall has figures representing the white and yellow races and are holding limestone and sand. The industries represented in the corner of the panels of the south wall are pharmaceutics and chemicals. The small panels below show a surgical operation and crystallized sulfur and potash. Unlike the north wall, the south panel is not arranged sequentially. The South Wall was painted in 1932-1933 and is 13.11 x 20.42 m.

"Most students will not make Spanish their major [in college], but by going on this trip we hope that the students will see all the aspects of life together," King said. "Manufacturing and technology, [majors of many college students] were shown in the paintings."

By traveling to Detroit and seeing Rivera's work helped Spanish students get a deeper understanding of Spanish culture first hand.

Minute by Minute

5:45- Spanish IV and Spanish V students arrive at school

6:00- Bus departs school for the Detroit Institute of Arts

9:00- Students read, watch movies, and sleep on bus

10:00- Students, teachers, and chaperones stop at fast food restaurant for breakfast

10:30- Students board bus and head toward Art Institute

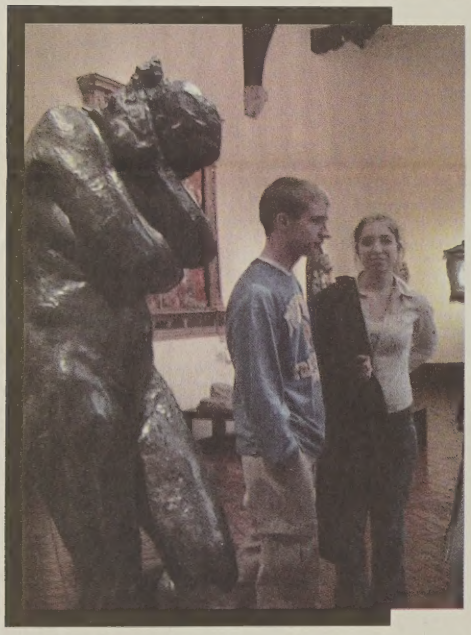
11:00- Bus arrives at Art Institute; students separate into four tour groups

11:15- Throughout the tour, students view sculptures, Impressionist works of art, paintings by Pablo Picasso, and a mural by Diego Rivera

11:45- The group spends time in the gift shop; heads toward Mexican Town on Bagley Street

12:15- The group arrives at Mexican Town. Many students visit shops, local restaurants, and other cultural attractions.

2:30- Students board bus and head back to school.



Above: Megan Hoffman (12) and Brian Smith (12) observe paintings and other sculptures in the museum. The Detroit Institute of Arts features several sculptures from contemporary and classical time periods. In addition, the museum entails a mural depicting social issues of Mexico and the Detroit Industry. The Spanish classes' main focus was Diego Rivera and his mural. Right: A sculpture from the museum is captured on film.

photos courtesy/ angela wood

Education across the seas

Meg Williams (11) takes advantage of opportunity provided by Indiana University program to spend seven weeks in France during the summer

suhasini bhargava
associate entertainment editor

Fulling a quest to incorporated the use of spoken and written French, become accustomed to French culture and visit Europe, Meg Williams (11) has committed seven weeks for a visit for an education experience in France.

Organized by the Honors College at Indiana University, this foreign language exchange program selected Williams as one of its participants for the summer of 2004.

After learning of the summer abroad program through Indiana University's website, Williams had to pass an elaborate process to become involved. The first steps of becoming an exchange student included filling out a personal information sheet and an application. Next, Williams wrote an essay, in French, about herself and her family. Additionally, the program asked for several personal and professional references; Williams included letters of recommendation from French teachers Susie Ferkel and Gregory Fryzel. In January, Williams was nominated as a semifinalist for the selection process, and she was asked to partake in an interview about France and its political structure.

"It [the interview] was intense and it was hard," Williams said. "It was in French so that made it even harder."

In March, Williams was announced as a qualifier for the program. She received phone calls from both Fryzel and Ferkel; a letter in the mail confirmed her selection.

"It was on March 16 [that I knew I was selected]," Williams said. "Everything went through Mr. Fryzel because he is the head of the department."

Williams has also applied for the Hefner Fund, a scholarship provided to students traveling abroad for studies. She will be competing against local high school students for the scholarships.

Indiana University's coordinators will be choosing a family for Williams to stay with during her trip. Williams will be departing on June 9 along with 15 other exchange students. Throughout the trip, the 15 students will take classes about French grammar, French culture, conversation, and geography. On Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays the students will participate in a theater program. On Thursdays, the students will engage in a sports days, and Fridays will be allotted as free days. On the weekends, students are expected to spend time with host families often visiting beaches, going on hikes, and going sight-seeing.

"On the weekends, we have to be with our host families and do outdoor things," Williams said. "It's not like we just sit around and watch TV."

Williams will be spending most of her days in St. Brieuc, a city on the coast of the English Channel. However, Williams will be taking a train to Paris to spend the last four days of her visit in the capital.

The summer abroad honors program from Indiana University requires that all exchange students follow strict rules: students must communicate in their foreign language at all times, they must refrain from using illegal substances and alcohol. Additionally, students are not allowed to date while on the exchange program.

"There are a lot of rules," Williams said. "I can't date anybody French or anybody in the program. I'm kind of nervous about breaking the no-English rule because I don't want them accusing me [of breaking any rules]."

Williams anticipates this trip to shed light on whether or not she would want to major or minor in French at college.

"I think it's going to be a good opportunity," Williams said. "This will really help me decide if I want to do something with French. I'm looking at majoring or minoring in French and doing international business, or teaching French, or maybe teaching English to French kids."

Student Exchange Rules

-Abide by the No-English Rule. Avoid American music; also, avoid reading English books, magazines, tapes, and CDs

- Politely refuse alcoholic beverages except if offered by members of your host family.

- Obey the no-dating rule. Try to spend time with all members of the group instead of limiting yourself to a few people.

- Always have a positive attitude for a better experience.

the Spartana
ENTERTAINMENT
April 2, 2004 Contact the Entertainment Editor at theSpartana@hotmail.com

Spring Break!

photos / larry buchanan

Students prepare for upcoming break

evan childers
writer

As Spring Break draws near, students ready themselves for a wide array of upcoming vacations. These voyages take students to all corners of the country.

Many Spring Break vacations center around visiting family who live in other parts of the country. Eric Defreeuw (11) is taking a trip with his family to Phoenix, Arizona. While there, Defreeuw, his younger brother, and his parents will visit family in the area around Flagstaff.

"Arizona is a great place," Defreeuw said. "I like all the Mexicans that try to sell you stuff there, because you can get everything so cheap."

Visiting family is a typical Spring Break experience for Defreeuw's family, who makes the trip to Arizona once every few years. Defreeuw says his family also plans to visit a family friend's cottage in the mountains near Flagstaff. While in the mountains, Defreeuw plans to relax and snowmobile, which is not usual for a spring break adventure.

"Another thing I like about Arizona is how its hot and cold and the same time," Defreeuw said. "Well, obviously not at the same time but in the same state."

After visiting family, Defreeuw will proceed to visit many different areas of California. He and his family will visit Los Angeles, Hollywood, and San Diego, among other cities.

Another typical Spring Break vacation spot is Florida. All over the country, students journey to Florida to experience the sun, the sand, and the ocean.

Don Ueber (11) and Ryan Chenoweth (11) are two Homestead students who are going to Florida this Spring Break.

Ueber is visiting Naples with his family. They will be staying in a condominium on the beach for the duration of their break.

"While I am in Florida, I will mainly be on the beach," Ueber said. "I will also be eating and getting lots of rest."

Chenoweth is also traveling to Florida with family. His family plans to stay at Cocoa Beach, in one of the many hotels found there. The journey to Florida is an annual event for the Chenoweth family.

"I enjoy all the girls you find down there," Chenoweth said. "That is what makes Florida so great."

While some spend time in Florida, other students will be traveling around the world through different organizations.

"This spring break I'm going to El Salvador with the Chapel to help rebuild churches from the 2000 earthquakes and to evangelize the natives," Kyle Brown (12) said. "I'm excited about going because it will be an adventure."

Some Homestead students are not traveling with family this Spring Break. Some are taking road trips. Trips with friends are popular for seniors, since it is their last year together. Kyle Brincefield (11) is traveling to several different cities, along with his friends Michelle Decker (11) and Jacqueline Jones (11). The first stop on their road trip will be Chicago, Illinois.

"We are going to see Oprah," Brincefield said. "I have always loved her. I watch her show ever day. We are hoping that she gives away free stuff when we are there. The trip will probably take two days. We will drive, hitchhike, or do whatever is necessary to get to Chicago. We also are going to go to Kansas City and Odessa."

With minutes to go until break arrives, many students look forward to exotic vacations around the world, opportunities to help others, road trips with friends, or relaxation at home.

——— Top: The Sensation, a Carnival Cruise boat in which a group of students spent Spring Break 2003, is a popular vacation choice. The boat went to the islands of Grand Cayman and Cozumel. Above: Many cruise ships visit the various islands in the Caribbean. Boats tender in the harbor while the passengers enjoy the food and sites. Activities or tours offered while inland include sting ray swimming, jeep tours, or tours of ancient ruins. Left: On Cozumel, some of the Sensation passengers took a jeep tour through the jungle and then through the down town area of Cozumel. Bottom: The Sensation is pictured here off the coast of Grand Cayman. The Mariachi bands were a popular attraction.—

West Virginia poses a different option from the beach

sarah kennedy
designer

Imagine having the resources to build houses for unfortunate families and having the power to help people in ways that will affect their lives forever. This is an experience that several Homestead students have participated in over some past years' spring breaks and will participate in again this year.

While many students will be off on vacation in warm, possible tropical places, several students will be in West Virginia building homes for poverty-stricken communities. The trip will consist of helping in whatever way possible. The students do not know what they will be doing to help yet; it could be anything from installing bathtubs to building frames for new houses. Much of the work can be done by the locals, but extra help is always appreciated.

The students are getting ready for the experience and look forward to the outcome of the trip.

"Yes, definitely [I am excited]; I helped plan the trip this year," Amanda McCarty (11) said. She hopes this year will be just as fun-filled and exciting as the trip last year.

The students look forward to having fun and building new friendships this year. They feel the trip is extremely rewarding, and students that go back for a second year are able to see how much the people in West Virginia appreciate what they are doing for them.

For returning students, the encounter can bring back memories from years past and enable them to see how their work has affected others. Many relationships made the first year volunteers reignite during the returning year.

"This is my third year going on the trip," McCarty said. "My freshmen year, I built frames for a house, and then my sophomore year, there was a family living in the house."

McCarty says that she is looking forward to showing new students how to do things and seeing the appreciation from locals for all the work the students do.

"[The trip] should be just as fun as last year, if not better," Andy Wirtner (10) said.

Newcomers to the trip are excited about the opportunity that they will have. The hands-on experience will be beneficial to them and teach them to view the world from a different perspective.

Students will be going to West Virginia through their churches, and student's outlook of the trip is very high. Students all expect the trip to be a complete success and largely beneficial to the citizens they will be helping.

2c
March 26, 2004

the Spartana
EXHORTATIVE

(ig-zor t -tiv) adj. intending to encourage, incite, or advise

Spartan Briefs

The Ladykillers

Coming out March 26th, The Ladykillers- based off of a 1955 movie, is a highly anticipated film. Starring Tom Hanks as the leader of a group of criminals, the movie follows an unusual plot. After Hanks and his crew, including Marlon Wayans and Greg Grunberg, rent out a basement in an elderly lady's basement, they begin plans for a big heist. But soon the old woman, played by Irma P. Hall, finds out what the criminals are planning; so the gang takes action, and decides to take her out. Unfortunately for Hanks and crew, the old lady isn't as easy to extinguish as they first thought. Rated R for violence, sexual references and explicit language.

Scooby Doo 2: Monsters Unleashed

The sequel to the first Scooby Doo released in 2002, this movie brings back most of the original cast and adds a few fresh faces to its line-up. Velma (Linda Cardillini), Daphne (Sarah Michelle Gellar), Greg (Freddie Prince Junior), and Shaggy (Matthew Lillard) will all be played by the same actors as in the original movie, but new to the character list will be Seth Green, Alicia Silverstone, and American Idol 2 winner, Ruben Studdard. This time around the gang is trying to stop a group of evil men from taking over Coolsville as a plethora of classic Mystery Inc. enemies come back to haunt them. The movie will come out March 26th and is rated PG for rude humor and language.

Envy

A comedy starring Jack Black and Ben Stiller, Envy is set to be released on April 2nd. In the movie Jack Black and Ben Stiller are life long friends and neighbors, but begin to have competitions with each other. Soon Black's character strikes it rich after he cashes in on a invention he has created. Because of his neighbor's success, Stiller is soon driven insane with envy. The movie also stars Cristopher Walken and Amy Poehler. It is rated PG-13 for language and sexual/crude humor.

The Alamo

The Alamo is the re-telling of the 1836 battle fought to defend a small mission building on the Mexico-Texas border. The movie is told from multiple perspectives and from men fighting on both sides of the war. In the movie, famous fighters such as David Crockett, played by Billy Bob Thornton, General Sam Houston, played by Dennis Quaid, James Bowie, played by Jason Patric, and Lt. Colonel William Travis, played by Patrick Wilson, and their roles in the battle are portrayed throughout the movie. The movie was made by Disney and directed by John Lee Hancock. It is set to come out April 9th.

Kill Bill: Volume 2

The final chapter of the two part Kill Bill set, the movie again follows "The Bride" as she continues her quest to eliminate all of the assassins responsible for the killing of her unborn child, her fiancée, and all of the guests at her wedding. The assassins also shot "The Bride", played by Uma Thurman, as well, but after a 5 year coma she awoke with a need for revenge. Part two is released on April 16th, and picks up where the first part left off. The second movie also stars Samuel L. Jackson, Sonny Chiba, and Darryl Hannah. It is rated R for violence and is directed by Quentin Tarantino. The movie runs one hour and thirty-four minutes and is distributed by Miramax Films.

Home on the Range

An animated musical, Home on the Range is next completely computer animated cartoon to hit theaters. The movie is set on a farm, and follows the tale of a group of farm animals who work together to help their owner produce a $1,000 mortgage in time to save her farm from foreclosure. The animals, led by a family horse who used to be a bounty hunter, decide to hunt down and catch a bandit. They are hoping the reward money will pay for the farm and allow their owner to keep things running. The movie's characters voices are done by Roseanne Barr, Sara Jessica Parker, Cuba Gooding Jr., and Randy Quaid. It is set to be released on April 2nd. The movie is rated PG for brief mild humor.

Judge Dredd: Dredd Versus Death

Set to be released on March 30, the game is only for Game Cube. Based off a comic book character, Judge Dredd strives to uphold the law by any means. Judge Dredd must use his stock of different weapons to try and destroy all of those who are opposing society. The game was developed by Rebellion, and is for mature players. It has multi player modes and can be played with up to 4 players. The game should cost about $50.00 when released.

Calendar

3.26 Ladykillers opens at theaters 3.26 Scooby Doo 2:Monsters Unleashed opens 3.26 1/2 day for Homestead Students 3.26 MORP dance at Homestead Highschool 3.30 Judge Dredd: Dredd Versus Death opens in theaters 3.30 Glorious Appearing goes on sale 4.02 Envy opens at theaters 4.02 Home on the Range opens 4.02 Spring Break begins 4.09 The Alamo opens 4.16 Kill Bill: Volume 2 opens at theaters

dillon kimmel
designer

It's all about the food. From luscious Hawaiian Teriyaki to the sweet Macadanian Nut Cookie, the foods students are always busy conjuring up endless recipes.

Denise Gellar, the teacher of the Foods classes, has been leaching Foods for around 15 years. She has taught other classes in the past but finds Foods most enjoyable.

"You just get to see the kids in a creative light. The kids are interested in Foods at this age," Gellar said.

There are three levels of Foods, in which the students need to meet the prerequisites. In Foods 2 and 3 students begin to cook. Each week, a region is chosen to cook from. Those range from the seafood of New England to the foreign cuisine of India. As of press time, the Foods 2 students were trying out foods from the Pacific and Hawaiian region of the U.S. Those included treats such as fruit tarts, macadanian nut cookies, and teriyaki chicken. Regions on the agenda included the South and Southwest Region of the U.S. and the New England region.

Many interesting projects take place during the course of the school year as well. Almost all projects are done in-class, but one in particular includes a trip to the local grocery. During the second semester, the Foods 2 and 3 classes will be doing a food budgeting project. They will be given a recipe and told to buy the ingredients needed to make the food. The only trick is, it needs to be the cheapest possible but has to have the best nutritional value available. After buying the ingredients the student believe are best, they will put the nutritional value of their product into a computer program which will determine how well the student did. Gellar likes the one-on-one attention she has with her student during these projects.

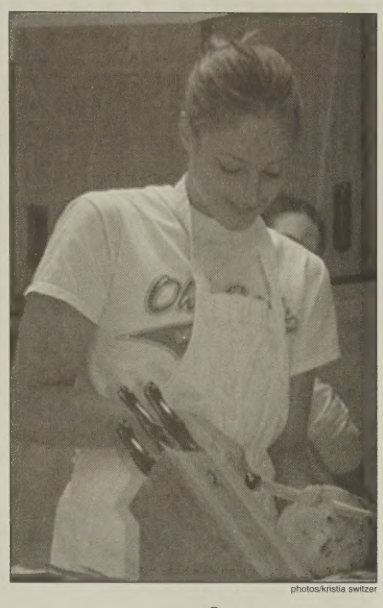
"You get to have a lot of personal contact with the kids you don't get in a lot of other classes. You really get to know them," Gellar said.

Both the teacher and the students enjoy the personal attention the student receive.

"I really enjoy the personal attention we get from Mrs. Gellar. She's a really nice person and I like how she makes sure we understand ," Sally Shinabarger (11) said.

Foods class is valuable to the curriculum. The class is perfect for those interested in regional and foreign foods as well as the nutritional aspects. Either way, any student in the class will have the opportunity to cook and, best of all, to eat, some of the most exotic and delicious foods available.

"I enjoy foods because is allows me to try new dishes, while learning to make them," Shinabarger said.



photos/kristia switzer

Left: Carly Lightner (12) works on her project for Foods class. The classes meet 4th and 5th period everyday;although, they do not cook everyday.

An exploration: foreign and ethnic recipes

Foods and Nutrition classes experiment with regional and exotic dishes

Cheese Enchiladas

1 large onion, chopped (about 1 cup)
2 large cloves garlic, crushed
1 tablespoon chili powder
2 tablespoons vegetable oil
1 can (28 ounces) crushed, not drained
1 teaspoon ground cumin
1 teaspoon dried oregano leaves
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/8 teaspoon pepper
1 1/2 cups shredded Cheddar cheese (6 ounces)
1 1/2 cups shredded Monterey Jack cheese (6 ounces)
1/4 cup vegetable oil
1 package (8 or 9 ounces) 6- or7-inch diameter corn tortillas (12 tortillas)
1 1/2 cups shredded lettuce
1/4 cup sliced ripe olives
Dairy sour cream

Cook and stir onion, garlic and chili powder in 2 tablespoons oil in Dutch oven until onion is tender (5 minutes). Stir in tomatoes, cumin, oregano, salt and pepper; break up tomatoes with fork. Heat to boiling; reduce heat. Simmer uncovered until thickened, about 30 minutes.

Mix cheeses. Heat 1/4 cup oil in 8-inch skillet until hot. Dip each tortilla lightly into hot oil to soften; drain. Dip each tortilla into sauce to coat both sides. Spoon about 2 tablespoon cheese onto each tortilla; roll tortilla around cheese. Place tortillas, seam sides down, in ungreased rectangular baking dish, 13x19x2 inches. Pour remaining tomato sauce over top; sprinkle with remaining cheese.

Bake uncovered in 350 degree oven until enchiladas are hot, about 15 minutes. Top with extra ingredients.

Crab Rangoon

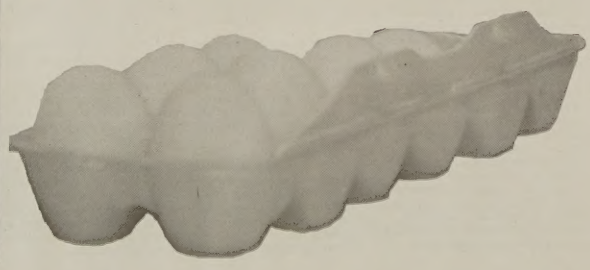
1 pound cream cheese, softened
1 pound fresh, canned or frozen crab meat, drained and thoroughly picked over to remove all bits of shell and cartilage
1 tablespoon finely chopped garlic
1/8 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
3 drops Tabasco sauce
2 teaspoons salt
1 teaspoon white pepper
4 recipes wonton wrappers
Vegetable oil for deep frying

Combine the cream cheese, crab meat, garlic, Worcestershire sauce, Tabasco, salt and pepper in a deep bowl. Beat vigorously with a large spoon until the mixture is smooth and fluffy.

Spread the freshly made wonton wrappers side by side on a lightly floured surface and, with a small, sharp knife or pastry wheel, cut them into 2-inch squares. (Ready-made wonton wrappers are already cut.) Place 1/2 teaspoon of the crab mixture in the center of each square. Fold the square so it forms a triangle and shape it as shown. As each crab puff is finished, place it on a plate or wax paper and cover it with a paper towel. If the wonton must wait longer than 30 minutes before being cooked, cover them with plastic wrap and refrigerate them.

Preheat the oven to the lowest setting, then line one or two large, shallow baking pans with paper towels and place them in the center of the oven. Pour about 3 cups of the vegetable oil into a 12-inch wok or fill a deep fryer or large, heavy skillet with oil to a depth of about 2 inches. Heat the oil until it reaches a temperature of 375 degrees on a deep frying thermometer. Deep fry the crab puffs, 6 to 8 at a time, turning them with a slotted spoon, for about 1 minute, or until they are golden brown on all sides. As they brown transfer them to the paper-lined pans in the oven while you fry the rest. As you deep-fry succeeding batches you will probably have to replenish the oil to keep it at the proper level. Serve the crab puffs hot.

Receipes courtesy of Denise Gellar



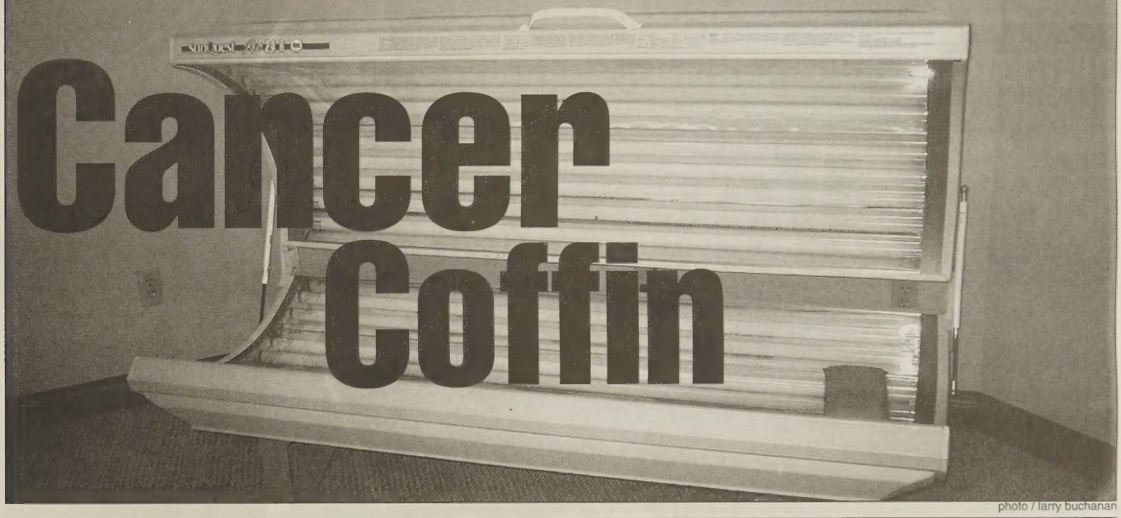
(in-vig´ -rāt´) v.
to impart strength
or vitality; stimulate

the Spartana
INVIGORATE

3c
April 2, 2003

150%: *The risk of melanoma increases 150% for women who tan in their 20s*

55%: *Tanning beds may increase cancer by 55%*



Cancer Coffin

photo / larry buchanan

Students prepare for spring break by tanning, unaware of dangerous, harmful consequences

javed sayed
designer

As spring break draws near, it becomes increasingly important for people to look after their skin. The effects of the sun and of tanning beds can be hazardous to people's health and can even be the cause of skin cancer.

Every year during the spring and summer months, millions of people around the country flock to the beaches along the coast. Most however, more interested in the fun to be had, forget to slap on a little sunscreen that can serve to protect from the harmful ultraviolet radiation produced by the sun. Ultraviolet radiation has been shown, in numerous studies, to be a preventable cause of skin cancer. Each time the skin in exposed to ultraviolet radiation damage is done to the individual cells and to the DNA. Some of the cells repair the damage that was done by ridding themselves of the damaged DNA. However, not all the cells are able to repair themselves. If a cell is unable to cure itself of the damaged DNA, it can become a defective cell. These cells that are not destroyed slowly can eventually produce a tumor. Skin cancer is not, however, the only danger caused by ultraviolet radiation. Sunburns, cataracts, and premature aging of the skin, are also called by overexposure to the sun and other forms of ultraviolet radiation.

"Ultraviolet radiation can burn, discolor, and even cause hair loss on the skin," certified medical assistant Joan Gaines said.

Although, some may claim that tanning beds serve as a safe alternative to an out door bronze, that is not entirely true. In a recent study at Dartmouth Medical School it was shown that people who used tanning bed on a regular basis are almost 2.5 times more likely to have cancerous cells.

Sunscreens which serve to shield the user from these rays do not provide full protection, although they greatly reduce the harmful effects caused by overexposure. Sunscreens come in varying degrees sun protection factors or SPF's. The sun protection factor is found by measuring how long it takes for skin to burn with and without the sunscreen. The SPF's specifies how many times longer one can stay out in the sun without burning. For example, if one's skin burns in 10 minutes without sunscreen, a sunscreen with a lotion with an SPF of 2 would mean that the skin would take 20 minutes before it burned if one applied the lotion.

"Use sunscreens and stay out of the sun as much as possible," Gaines said. "[Make sure to bring] plenty of sun screen and protective clothing when going on vacation."

Other ways to protect one self from the sun include trying to reduce sun exposer between 11:00 am and 4:00 pm when the effects of the sun can be felt the greatest, wearing protective covering cover the arms and legs, and wearing sunglasses to protect the eyes from ultraviolet radiation.

The dangers of ultraviolet radiation are real whether people choose to face them are not. Indoor tanning which was once thought to be completely safe, has been shown to actually increase the risk of having cancerous cells. Although, there may not be a way to completely eliminate dangers from ultraviolet radiation, measure do exist to help partially protect people and decrease the risk of getting skin cancer and other UVR related diseases.

The Spartana *staff wanted to compare the results of sunless tanning and tanning beds, so we asked for the opinions of two students who frequent tanning booths*

"I was very skeptical of spray on tanning. I was worried that I would be orange. All together, I would say [spray tanning is] positive and partially negative. [After tanning,] I looked very tan. Then parts of my skin became discolored. If I kept tanning, I would go [spray on]. After many trips to a spray on tanner, the tan looks better. Which beats the alternative of many trips to the tanning saloon- which may result in cancer."

Meg Williams (11)

"I go to the tanning bed every year before spring break. I usually go at least 4 times for about 15-20 minutes. It's a good way to relax an get a good base tan for Florida."

Nick Knoblauch (12)

To bake it or fake it?

Self tanning counters misconceptions, proves effective

ashley butler
designer

There will be more than 800,000 cases of skin cancer this year alone in the United states, which has proved reason enough for many students to realize the benefits of sunless tanning.

There are three basic alternatives to tanning that will achieve the look of suntanned skin: bronzers, tanning pills, and self-tanners.

Bronzers are the most common form of tanning substitute, generally used only on the face. Although bronzers .03 are effective, they only stay on until they are washed off, and cannot be easily used on all parts of the body.

Another way of achieving a tan, though not extremely safe, is through tanning pills.

Tanning pills contain carotenoid color additives, which are the same chemicals used to give oranges their bright color. These additives have been approved by the FDA for use in the food industry, however have not been proven safe for tanning ones skin.

Tanning pills, taken orally, distribute carotenoid additives throughout the body and in some cases, can be very harmful.

In addition to the dangers that may occur with the use of tanning pills, they do not give a natural tan, but instead give the skin an orange tint.

The final and most common full body tanning substitute is a self-tanner.

"People are becoming more aware of the UV rays that come from the sun and tanning beds, which is causing many of them to start using sunless tanners."

-Stacey Hernandez

Self-tanners are offered in two ways: professional applications, or bottled over-the-counter tanners to be applied at one's home.

Self-tanners are offered at a variety of prices and have many advantages.

Self-tanners make it easy for someone to look tan without being subject to the sun, or a tanning bed's UV rays. Also, they are easy to apply and last for a short time, enabling someone to not have the lasting effects should they mess up during the application process.

"There are ways to make tanning lotions look really natural," Amy Markancek (11) said. "You just need to smooth it in and make it look even; most people make the mistake of taking a shower right after they apply it, but it's best to wait for a few hours like the bottle tells you to do."

Self-tanners have been proven to be completely safe, as the active ingredient involved, DHA, was added by the FDA to the list of safe cosmetic ingredients in the early 1970's.

Because all self-tanners use the same active ingredient, one can expect the same results from most brands. If a tanning lotion is priced higher than another, it doesn't necessarily mean that it is better quality.

As well as applying self-tanning lotions one's self, application can be done by professionals.

"The tanning that we offer is like all self-tanners in that it's absorbed into the skin, changing the skin's color," Mist 'N Go owner, Stacey Hernandez said. "Our tanning is the highest quality available; it's applied in a misting booth all over your body for 60 seconds."

Getting self-tanner applied in a booth or by a professional can be easier than applying it on your own.

"Our spray booths are quicker and offer a more even tan that you could achieve at home," Hernandez said.

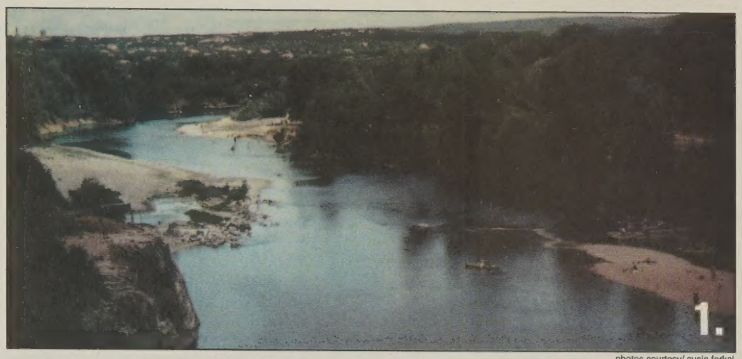
As spring break draws near, students flock to tanning beds to achieve a look that has grown extremely popular, however many don't realize the benefits of safe tanning alternatives.

"People are becoming more aware of the UV rays that come from the sun and tanning beds, which is causing many of them to start using sunless tanners," Hernandez said.

Self-tanning, in it's many forms, is a healthy substitute, free of side-effects, for achieving the perfect tan over spring break.

4c
April 2, 2004
the Spartana
ADVANTAGEOUS

(ăd'văn-tā'jəs)
adj. affording benefit or gain; useful



photos courtesy/ susie ferkel

Bon Voyage!

French teacher Susie Ferkel plans trips to France, shares experiences from previous visits

— *France: fun facts* —

~ Fourth most populous nation in Europe

~ Capital City- Paris

~ Second largest city: Marseille

~ Commonly spoken language: French

~ Area in square miles: 210,026

~ Average daily temperature in July: 55 degrees F to 75 degrees F

source/ encarta encyclopedia online

photos courtesy/ susie ferkel

Above left: This plate of mango and lobster in salad was an appetizer at the Chateau de Chissay in France. Above: This meal was the cheese course at the same restaurant. 1. Pictured is a river in Provence. 2. This view at the Hotel Baudy overlooks the courtyard of the hotel. 3. Featuring a view of The Louvre and the Arc de Carousel, this picture captures two of Paris's tourist attractions. The Louvre serves as France's national art museum. 4. This picture is of the Hotel Baudy; Ferkel stayed at Hotel Baudy on her last visit to France. Picture in bottom information box: This picture features the Monument at Bastille.

manasee atre
copy editor

Longer days and warmer weather are slowly creeping upon us, signaling the beginning of traveling season. With spring break just around the corner and the summer months quickly approaching, many people are beginning to look at the calendar, call the travel agent, and plan their spring and summer vacations. French teacher Susie Ferkel is planning on visiting France during Spring Break and for a few weeks in June.

"I will be going to France twice this year," Ferkel said. "I will be going for two weeks, starting on March 26 and going through Spring Break. Then, I will go again in the summer with some of my students."

During Ferkel's Spring Break trip, she will travel to Orléans, France and team-teach with an English teacher there, Sylvea Gouchet.

"My main activity when I go to France during Spring Break will be to teach English with Sylvea," Ferkel said. "Most of her students have been learning English since they were about ten-years-old. However, even though they have been learning English for a long time, sometimes their speaking skills are not very good. So, when I am there, the students will be able to hear firsthand how English sounds. Also, since I am a French teacher, I will hopefully be able to work more closely with the students to improve their speaking skills."

Then, a few weeks after Ferkel returns from her trip, Gouchet will come to Fort Wayne for two weeks and teach French with Ferkel.

"On April 17, Sylvea will come here and teach with me," Ferkel said. "It is a really nice exchange, because then my students will have the opportunity to hear a native French speaker, improve their speaking skills, and learn a lot about French culture."

When Gouchet comes to Fort Wayne, she will bring some of her students with her.

"Sylvea will bring six of her students with her," Ferkel said. "I have arranged for them to stay with twelve Homestead students. Her students will shadow some of my French students during the day, and then they will also take some trips. We are planning to go to Indianapolis and also to some places in town, such as the Lincoln Museum. I want them to be able to learn as much as they can about American culture, and I hope that my students will also learn from them."

Ferkel began participating in the teacher exchange program in 1999. She learned about the program, which is administered by the Indiana University Honors College, through the Indiana Teachers of French organization. The I.U. Honors College then put her into contact with Gouchet, and the two have worked together in the program ever since.

"Sylvea and I have taught together twice prior to the trip that I will take during Spring Break," Ferkel said. "We have a wonderful friendship. We talk and e-mail each other all the time."

In addition to teaching English with Gouchet, Ferkel will also sightsee and visit friends when she is in France.

> "We have visited France many times in the past thirty years, and throughout the years, we have made some good friends there. It is also nice to be able to visit them"
>
> -French teacher Susie Ferkel

"My husband will be coming with me on my trip," Ferkel said. "We will visit the Loire Valley, where there are many chateaus, and we will also visit Paris. We have visited France many times in the past thirty years, and throughout the years, we have made some good friends there. It is also nice to be able to visit them."

After her Spring Break trip, Ferkel will visit France again in June with some French students.

"I will visit France again from June 7 to June 17 with twenty-two of my students," Ferkel said. "We will travel to the Loire Valley and Paris, visit the beaches in Normandy, and go to Monet's Garden."

Ferkel and the students are taking the trip through the Explorica travel company, but Ferkel planned the itinerary.

"We are taking the trip through Explorica," Ferkel said. "However, I planned the tour, and this is our own trip. We will not be traveling with any other tour group."

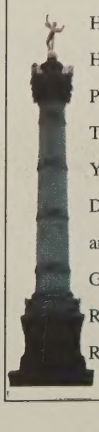
Ferkel believes the students will enjoy most all of the aspects of the trip.

"I think the students will enjoy everything," Ferkel said. "We have a wonderful group of kids; they are very open-minded, and I think they will really like everything."

Ferkel hopes that the students will garner a broader world view from the trip.

"I want the kids to really learn to appreciate the world around them," Ferkel said. "I want the kids to experience other cultures and learn not to be judgmental of them, to understand and accept that there are different ways of looking at things. The world is a much bigger place than Fort Wayne."

— *Learn to speak French* —



Hello- Bonjour

How are you? - Comment Ca va?

Please- S'il vous plait

Thank you- Merci

You're welcome- De Rien

Do you speak English- Tu parles anglais?

Goodbye- Aurevoir

Restaurant- au restaurante

Restroom- au toillette

the Spartana
SPORTS & VIEWS
April 2, 2004 Contact the Sports and Views editor atTheSpartana@hotmail.com

photos / zach hetrick

Vaulting to new heights

jessica bird
writer

The first outdoor meet of the 2004 season was triumphant for the girls track team. The team beat Huntington North 79-44 on Tuesday, March 23.

In the 100m hurdles, Katie Veith (9) placed first (15.8). Hannah Weide (11) won the 100m dash with a time of 12.3. Samantha Lee (10) took first with a time of 5:33.2. The 400m relay team, consisting of Kristin Zachman (12), Cathy Meade (9), Audri Nicholson (11), and Weide, placed first with a time of 52.5. Sarah Schepper (11) received first place in the 400m dash (34.4). Veith won the 300m hurdles with a time of 51.4. Weide won the 800m run (2:22.6). LeAnn Sarka (12) won the 3200m with a time of 12:16.4. The 1600m relay team of Veith, Johnson, Schepper, and Weide won with a time of 4:19.2.

"We did the best that we have done in a while," Weide said. "A lot of girls got their personal bests."

For the first meet of the season, runners achieved their personal best times largely because of the practicing done in the preseason.

"We have been doing new types of plyos [at practice]," Weide said. "They help us with our turnovers. Also, we have been having harder practices."

Pole-vaulting, a male track and field event, has made its way into the girls meets. Veith is the first girl ever at Homestead to perform this event at high school meets. However, because pole-vaulting is not a sport open for competition in high school meets, her scores do not count in the competition. Before her high school career, Veith had competed in other meets in which her scores were counted.

"Over the summer, I went to the Junior Olympic Nationals in Miami, Florida, and I won the 13-14 age division with a jump of about 9 feet," Veith said.

Veith's highest jump was 12' 4", which was good enough to put her in a tie for seventh place in the nation.

"[Pole-vaulting should be a competitive event at girls high school meets] because it is not fair that boys can do it and girls cannot," Veith said.

Other freshman are also helping with the team. With different types of practicing than they were used to in middle school, the freshman have found high school track to be an adjustment.

"A lot of freshman [and JV] don't know how they are going to run and they do not know [until they run in high school meets] if they're going to be on Varsity at the end of the year," Weide said.

The girls' next meet is April 27 against Dekalb and Carroll at Carroll.

Ross Shomburg (11) carries the baton during the meet against Elmhurst. The 3200m relay team of Spencer York (10), Kyle Fezi (10), Ben Townsend (10), and Schomburg placed first. The team placed first in eleven other running and field events in their 97-37 victory over Elmhurst. The JV also won handily with a score of 99-8. Top: David Blake vaults during warm-ups before the meet. The vaulters took all three places in their event. The team competes in the North Side Relays next.

jessica bird
writer

With one outdoor meet on their record, the Homestead boys track team is off to a perfect start. The first meet of the season, on Tuesday, March 23, was against Elmhurst, and the score was 97-37.

The 3200m relay was won by Spencer York (10), Kyle Fezi (10), Ben Townsend (10), and Ross Schomburg (11) with a time of 9:11.0. The 400m relay team of John Ehler (9), Jonathon Thomas (12), Tim Reid (11), and Zach Kiessling (12), won with a time of 44.8. The 1600m relay team, consisting of York, Reid, Kiessling and Mitch Eskritt (11) won with a time of 3:39.8. Kiessling won the 100m with a time of 10.9 . Townsend won the 1600m run with a time of 4:49. Reid won the 300m hurdles with a time of 44.1. Winning the 800m run was Schomburg with a time of 2:10.1. Kiessling won the 200m dash with a time of 22.7. Clark won the 3200m run with a time of 10:38.

"Our team's performance was great," John Nguyen (11) said. "I had expected our teams [JV and Varsity] to win the Elmhurst meet."

Practice has played a key role in the Spartan's early success.

"Last year, track practice was so much easier than it is this year," York said. "Last year, we hardly ever did anything, but this year we run so much. I have already tied my personal record for the 800m [in the first meet]."

A new track coach has been helping the boys with new techniques for running. Coach Perkins has experience in sports from coaching football at Woodside.

"[We're] focusing more on rhythm and form instead of just strength," Nguyen said.

Another aspect that has helped the track boys come out on top early was their new runners.

"We have some key freshman this year," York said. "Ehler and Hunter Hall (9) are having some terrific times this year that have helped us and almost advanced us to the IU meet."

The JV track team also dominated Elmhurst with a score of 99-8.

"We have a lot of guys doing better than they were this time last year," York said. "[They do well] not only on varsity, but on reserve as well."

The team is confident about its practice strategies, and with the result of the first meet, it is also optimistic about the season.

"We have been working a lot harder this year and with Coach Perkins teaching us new techniques, I feel we could place first [at conference]," York said.

The boys' next meet is the North Side Relays after spring break..

Gymnastics season closes with fifth place

Sub par season end at sectionals

tyler keena
writer

The Spartans gymnastics team struggled through the regular season and was unable to break out of their rut in the postseason.

The girls entered sectional competition with a 5-6 record overall and a 2-3 record against their conference rivals.

"We lost four seniors from last year and that really hurt us," Betsy Neely (10) said. "We did not get any new girls for varsity. So, we had to work with what we had left. I think that we tried our hardest and did well with our losses."

The team's fifth place finish in the Homestead Sectional competition on Saturday, March 6 was not good enough to advance to regionals. However, Shelly Toth (11) did advance to regionals by placing individually at sectionals. Toth, who participated in all four events at sectionals (vault, uneven bars, balance beam, and floor exercise) advanced with sixth place finishes in the uneven bars and floor exercise. Toth scored an 8.9 on the uneven bars and a 9.4 in the floor exercise, and she was the only Spartan to advance out of the Homestead sectional.

Despite a stellar performance at sectionals, Toth was unable to advance by finishing in the top six at the Huntington North regional competition, which was held on Friday, March 12. Toth finished sixteenth in the floor exercise and just missed a top six finish by placing seventh in the uneven bars with a score of 8.9.

Despite a difficult year for the team because of the loss of several talented gymnasts from last season, the team still sees plenty of room for improvement and has their sights set high for next year.

"We could have practiced harder and been less nervous [while competing]," Toth said. "I think we all know we can get a lot better and we are all determined to work a lot harder and make it to regionals next year."

photo / zach hetrick

Betsy Neely (10) vaults at a home meet. The team finished 5-6 on the season and 2-3 in conference competition. Shelly Toth (11) was the only Spartan to move past Sectionals, placing sixth in two events, but was unable to advance past Regionals.

Softball opens season with win, follows with loss

matt anderson
designer

After splitting their first two games, the girls softball team has been to re-evaluate the team, and has been able to examine exactly where they need work. Now, through hard work and practice, they hope to bounce back, and start a winning streak to prepare themselves for the postseason.

Starting its season off successfully, the team managed to win aagainst Elmhurst. After getting pushed back a few days due to weather, the teams faced off. The game provided the Spartans a glimpse of just how good their team could be this year.

"I am glad we played Elmhurst first because we did not play as well as we could considering the team we were facing," Ann McCullough (11) said. "It was kind of a reality check for us. We found out we really need to work on batting because we did not score until the 4th inning. We could get runners on base, but then we could not knock them home."

Even with faltering bats, the girls managed to put the game away toward the end and pull off a 5-0 victory.

"Our bats struggled a bit in the beginning," Amber Ludwig (11) said. "We would connect, and get a good hit, but it would always go right to them. And then when we got someone on, we could not move them around the bases. But towards the end of the game, we started to really get going and were finding the gaps."

To achieve the shutout against Elmhurst, the girls banned together on defense and held strong throughout the game. The girls' pitching and fielding were both nearly perfect, and they gave the other team little room for error.

"We were very solid defensively," Ludwig said. "The entire game we committed zero errors and had very few runners on base."

Ludwig, who pitched the Elmhurst game, actually set a school record for strike-outs in a game. She eventually went on to strike-out 17 batters.

The girls next game was against Concordia on Tuesday March 29th. After a hard fought game the team would fall to the Cadets 6-5 after a late run by the Spartans.

"We really did not have a good game against Concordia," McCullough said. "Our defense, which is usually really stable, had a lot of trouble. We made a lot of errors, and let them score a lot of their runs within a couple innings. Plus, we were having trouble getting people on base. We scored five runs in the sixth and had a chance to win, but couldn't finish it. We just didn't play very well."

Tyring to put the Concordia loss in the past, the team is now looking ahead to a doubleheader scheduled to be played on April 17th against Northrop and Blackford, two teams that they see as challenges.

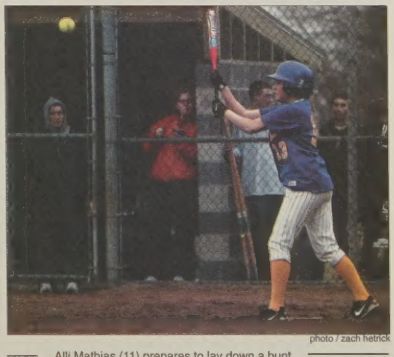


photo / zach hetrick

Alli Mathias (11) prepares to lay down a bunt.

2b
April 2, 2004

the Spartana
DISPORT

(di - spôrt´) v. to occupy oneself with diversion or amusement

Ireland passes nationwide anti-smoking law

Spartan Briefs

Komet Hockey

The Fort Wayne Komets of the Untied Hockey League are in the thick of the hunt for the Tarry Cup, which goes to the regular season champion. The Komets are 4 points ahead of the Quad City Mallards for first place overall in the UHL standings, while the Muskegon Fury, the Kalamazoo Wings and the Richmond Riverdogs take the top 5 spots overall. The Komets final home games are on Sunday, April 4, vs. the Missouri Riverotters, at 5:05 pm, and on Wednesday, April 7, vs. the Adirondack Icehawks, at 7:35 pm, before they begin the Colonial Cup playoffs.

College Basketball

While the Indiana Hoosiers did not make either the NCAA or the NIT, both the Purdue Boilermakers and the Notre Dame Fighting Irish made the NIT and played in the first round. The Irish won their first round game 71-59 (check score) and moved on to play St. Louis University at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum. The Irish were defeated in their next game however, 65-61 by Oregon. The only Indiana team to make it to the NCAA tournament was the Valparaiso University (ranked 15th) basketball team that was defeated in the first round by number 2 ranked Gonzaga. In the final four of the NCAA tourney are: UConn, Duke, Georiga Tech, and Oklahoma State.

Pacers Basketball

The Pacers successful season is winding down and it looks as if the Pacers will lock down first place in the Easter Conference. The Pacers have a 54-19 record which is best in the League thus far. Jermaine O'Neal leads the Pacers in scoring, scoring an average of 20.3 points per game, good enough for 17th place in the NBA. The Pacers next few games are; Friday, April 2, at home against the Toronto Raptors, Sunday, April 4, at Detroit Pistons, and Tuesday, April 6, at home against New York Knicks.

NHL Report

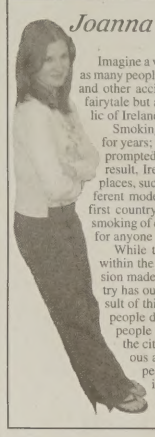
The NHL is entering the last few weeks of the regular season and will soon begin the Stanley Cup playoffs. The Detroit Red Wings are tied for the league lead, overall, with 103 points, while Tampa Bay also has 103 points. The San Jose Sharks are next best with 100 points, and Boston is in third overall with 99 points. Martin St. Louis, of Tampa Bay, leads all forwards with 89 points, while Joe Sakic, of the Colorado Avalanche, is only 4 points behind him. Miikka Kiprusoff, who tends goal for Calgary, leads all goalies in GAA (Goals Against Average) with a 1.73 GAA, However both Roberto Luongo of the Florida Panthers and Dwayne Roloson of the Minnesota Wild leads the league in save percentage with a .935 mark. Martin Brodeur, who plays for New Jersey, and Marty Turco, who plays for Dallas are both tied for the league lead in wins with 36 apiece.

NASCAR Racing

The NASCAR Nextel cup season is well under way, into its second month of racing. Matt Kenseth leads the series in points, while Dale Earnhardt Jr. is nipping at his heals only 21 points behind. Dale Earnhardt Jr. won the Golden Corral 500 at the Atlanta Motor Speedway a few weeks back while Jimmy Johnson won the Carolina Dodge Dealers 400 at the Darlington Raceway. Last week Kurt Busch won the Food City 500 at the Bristol Motor Speedway. The next 4 races are the Samsung/Radio Shack 500 at the Texas Motor Speedway, the Advance Auto Parts 500 at the Martinsville Speedway, and the Aaron's 499 from the Talladega Superspeedway.

Cubs Notes

The Chicago Cubs are wrapping up their spring training season. All-Star pitcher, Mark Prior, will miss the beginning of the season with an injury, but may be ready by the Cubs' home opener. The Cubs have high expectations after last years run for the title. Fans hope for a promising baseball season, as the Cubs have arguably the best pitching rotation in Major League Baseball.

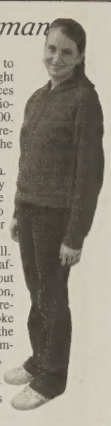


Joanna Rogers *Editor in Chief*

Imagine a world where cigarettes kill nearly six times as many people as drugs, suicide, murder, road accidents, and other accidents combined. This is not some scary fairytale but a reality that actually exists in the Republic of Ireland.

Smoking has been a large part of the Irish culture for years; however, the recent increase in deaths has prompted concern for the future of the country. As a result, Ireland has outlawed smoking in all public places, such as offices and restaurants, as well as different modes of public transportation. Ireland is the first country to ever make a nationwide ban on the smoking of cigarettes. There will be a 3,825 dollar fine for anyone who breaks the new law.

While this new ban has enraged several people within the borders of Ireland, I agree with the decision made by the government of Ireland. The country has outrageously high numbers of death as a result of this bad habit. Smoking not only affects the people directly committing the crime but also the people who breath in the smoke second hand. If the citizens of the country did not respect previous attempts to combat the problem and more people continue to die as a result of smoke inhalation, then I think it was necessary for the government to take more drastic steps in securing a healthier future for its people.



Mary Rozman *Associate Editor*

Ireland became the first country in the world to place a national ban on smoking. Effective midnight on Sunday March 28, smoking in all Irish workplaces and closed public spaces is illegal. Those who violate the new law could face fines just under $4,000. With the highest rate of heart disease in Europe, Ireland is trying to remedy the health problem with the tobacco ban. W

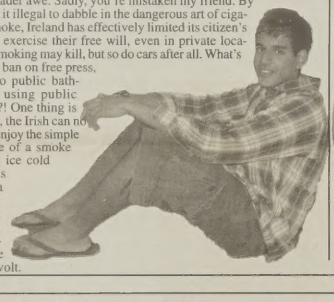
In my opinion, Ireland's new ban is a great idea. Cigarette smoking is responsible for approximately thirty percent of all cancer deaths every year in the United States. Not only does smoking contribute to lung cancer, but heart disease, strokes, and other lung diseases.,

Smoking is hazardous for non-smokers as well. Those who choose not to smoke can be adversely affected by smoking. Second-hand smoke causes about 3,000 deaths to non-smokers per year. In addition, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released a risk assessment report that classified smoke as a Group A carcinogen, which is a category for the most dangerous cancer-causing agents. I cannot comprehend how someone would desire to smoke, knowing all the possible negative repercussions.

Norway is planning on implementing a similar law in June. Perhaps the U.S. should consider this option as well.

Zafar Sayed *News Editor*

In just the several seconds you've spent perusing through this page, I'm sure you now know of the issue at hand. In a nutshell, Ireland has recently banned smoking from all its pubs. While this may seem insignificant to many here in the "states", it actually has worldwide implications regarding freedom of speech and democracy. Surely you're thinking I'm blowing this seemingly distant event out of proportion; sensationalizing a moot topic purely to elicit reader awe. Sadly, you're mistaken my friend. By making it illegal to dabble in the dangerous art of cigarette smoke, Ireland has effectively limited its citizen's right to exercise their free will, even in private locations. Smoking may kill, but so do cars after all. What's next? A ban on free press, going to public bathrooms, using public phones?! One thing is for sure, the Irish can no longer enjoy the simple pleasure of a smoke with an ice cold beer. It's only a matter of time until the inevitable Irish revolt.



Josh Zurawski *Sports Editor*

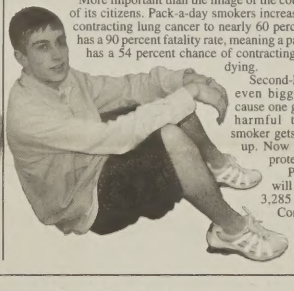
When I heard of the national ban on smoking in public places in Ireland, I was thrilled. There are places in the United States with similar bans, but Ireland is the first country to place a nationwide ban.

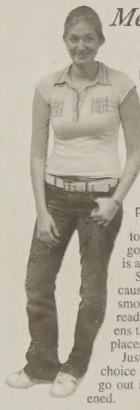
Unlike my counterpart to the left, Zafar, I believe that the ban does not violate the rights of the citizens, rather, it helps them. Smoking is often negatively associated with the Irish, and now the world can look at them in a positive light.

More important than the image of the country is the health of its citizens. Pack-a-day smokers increase their chance of contracting lung cancer to nearly 60 percent. Lung cancer has a 90 percent fatality rate, meaning a pack-a-day smoker has a 54 percent chance of contracting lung cancer and dying.

Second-hand smoke is an even bigger problem, because one gets the same 250 harmful toxins that the smoker gets without lighting up. Now non-smokers are protected in Ireland.

Public smokers will face fines of up to 3,285 dollars. Perhaps Congress could pass a similar bill, banning public smoking.





Melanie Kuehnert *Entertainment Editor*

Working in a smoke-filled environment has the same long-term effect as smoking ten cigarettes a day.

This weekend Ireland passed a ban on all smoking in pubs, restaurants and the other enclosed workplaces. if a customer is caught smoking in a pub, the owner can face a fine up to 3,000 euros.

Bertie Ahern, Irish Prime minister, told BBC News, "Health and quality of life issues are important to people in their place of work."

Critics claim the band will be impossible to enforce. During the weekend or at night, going out and having a drink and a cigarette is a cultural tradition of Ireland.

Second hand smoke is the third largest cause of lung cancer. Granted, living with a smoker makes the risk greater, and adult already living with heart problems only worsens them by the second hand smoke of public places.

Just as a smoker has a right to free will and choice to smoke, I have a great to being able to go out in public and no have my health threatened.

Manasee Atre *Copy Editor*

For the most part, Ireland's anti-smoking bill is a smart piece of legislation. However, the section of the bill that proscribes smoking in bars is not viable.

First, most of the anti-smoking bill is important and well-written. Smoking - related health sicknesses are a major problem in Ireland. Ireland has Europe's highest rate of heart disease. In addition, about 7000 Irish people die from smoke-related illnesses every year. Therefore, prohibiting smoking in restaurants, closed public spaces, and on public transportation will help decrease this problem.

However, while outlawing smoking in most places is useful and also provides health benefits, outlawing smoking in bars is not practical. People usually go to bars to kick back, relax, drink, and smoke. Telling people that they cannot smoke in bars is like telling people not to eat ice cream in an ice cream shop.

So, for the most part, Ireland's non-smoking law is a good law with many health benefits. However, having a no smoking law that applies to all of the nation's pubs is not practical.

The Editorial Review

Yesterday a pep session was held to congratulatethe varsity dance team and the winter guard on their recent excellence. The varsity dance placed first in the nation in division one jazz and placed second inthe lyrical competition. Likewise, the winter guard placed second at the state competition. The hard work and dedication of both of these teams should be commended. Whle the dance team and winter guard are not usually thought of as athletic teams, they deserve the recognition they have earned.

Editorial Board Vote: 6 For, 0 Against

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The Spartana is a monthly production of the Journalism 3/4 class at Homestead High School. Its purpose is to educate, enlighten, and entertain. *The Spartana* has and may continue to operate as a limited open forum for the free exchange of ideas.

Profanity may appear in *the Spartana* with the approval of the adviser, but only in cases of direct quotations or if it is necessary for clarity. Material which is libelous or obscene and could cause substantial and material disruption, as defined by the Supreme Court, will not be printed.

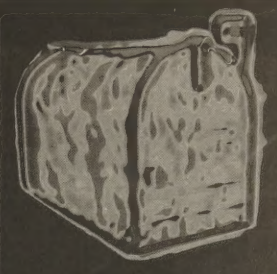
Pubic input will be accepted in the form of letters to the editor. Letters must follow standards concerning liable or obscenity. Those which could cause substantial and material disruption, as defined by the Supreme Court, will not be printed.

Staff members of *the Spartana* support the First Amendment rights and oppose censorship in any form. The content of the paper is determined by the student staff. In cases of potentially controversial material the editorial board will meet to decide the content of the newspaper. Students will be assisted by the adviser in areas of professional ethics and legalities.

(dis´ -pā´shən)
n. An amusement; diversion

the Spartana
DISSIPATION

3b
April 2, 2004



Mailbox

Write in and voice your opinion about anything on your mind. If you've ever wanted to have your voice heard, this is your chance to make it clear.

Have your voice heard...

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Candidate Confrontations

Presidential candidates Bush and Kerry have shown their true colors in recent debates...but are those colors red, white and blue?

sam stahl
writer

Election years offer great insights into how our country's functions. What other time do you have important government officials initiating congressional investigations to plug their book? Joking aside, there are some important issues that need to be resolved this year.

On the national level this year, we have Senator John Kerry facing off against President George Bush. They both try to come across as everyday people, pardon the cliche. Both accuse each other of being in the pockets of "special interest" organizations. Yep, those same groups who have funded nearly every congressional and presidential campaign since before the industrial revolution. Hundreds of millions of dollars each year are funneled into "informing" elected officials about various issues important to businesses, trade groups, and unions. It is laughably hypocritical for anyone in Washington to accuse anyone else of being unscrupulous with donations and gifts.

With this situation, our government is about as true to democracy as Stalin was to communism. Why don't the candidates just trade their political "attack dogs" for Dobermans? They'd be much more entertaining to see go head to head on the news shows than any political insider who has been in Washington a few decades too long.

But it is not only undue external forces pushing the government's sanity. Shortly after 9/11, the Patriot Act was signed into law. Organizations like the ACLU naturally objected to numerous provisions in the act. But it soon became apparent that many fears about the act were justified. The act diminishes the burden of proof and oversight needed for subpoenas, wiretaps, and searches. The leeway given by the public to congress and the intelligence was born largely out of irrational fears.

When it comes to a difficult issue, Americans have a tendency to take a hands off approach, letting the congress work through it. The whole furor over John Ashcroft's comments about it being unpatriotic to question the Patriot Act was justified. The lack of a public questioning the provisions of it's government spawns these kinds of absurd remarks. It also increases the confidence of those who want to infringe on the public's right to privacy.

The concept of a suspect being innocent until being proven guilty is one of the main tenants of our judicial system. Accordingly, the authorities normally have to prove to a judge that they have evidence pointing to a particular suspect to let them wiretap that suspect's phone. Under the Patriot Act, the authorities don't even have to know who the suspect is to get a wiretap. Just another example of over-reaching provisions in the act.

What is more distrubing than the act itself is the confidence it created for those who supported it. In recent years, cell phones have created a major headache for the FBI. Instead of spending some of it's vast new funding in finding a solution on their end, the FBI wants manufacturers of the cell phones to build in technology that makes it easier to wiretap these phones. This proposal also extends to software. Unlike cell phones, software with built in defects can be exploited by nearly anyone. Oh, and by the way, under the proposal you pick up the tab for your invasion of privacy. How elegant.

During Spring Break, many of you will be flying through airports, having to endure the numerous new security measures. One proposal would create a computer database of each passenger that flies. Under the proposal, their is no limit about the amount of information that could be obtained for the database. Whatever evidence the database would contain, it would be used to assign you a "threat number." Call it numeric profiling, but the information used to compile this database could be worse than the racial profiling that was subject of controversy a year or two ago.

We can afford ignorance of the activities of our own government no more than we can with terrorists. To say the danger is equal might be an overstatement, but it is not far from the truth. It is time to question the government's role in our private lives, to accept not what we hear at face value, but with a grain of salt. When emotions are involved in lawmaking, when a vital and flawed bill is passed in haste, it is time to question the leadership of those involved. Reading between the lines is required, motives need to be questioned before another law of this kind is imposed upon us.

Sam Stahl is a sophomore and is a writer and works for the Spartana. The views and opinions expressed in this editorial do not necessarily represent those of the Spartana *or of its staff.*

Violent hockey games deter fans

tim clark
writer

Hockey fans wonder why hockey comes off so negative to outsiders. One cause is because people don't like the violence in the sport today, and hence hockey has quite a lot of it. And what a way to advertise that more than to have an All-star player commit a violent act to which criminal charges could come about.

Hockey has longingly struggled to become a supreme spectator sport in the United States. Hockey, which has never been the most popular sport in the United States, has had dwindling support lately. Fans aren't coming out to the games like they once did, TV viewers seldom watch the games anymore, and what hurts more than anything? The selfishness of the players which may result in a lock-out of hockey for the 2004-200 season, placing a huge nail in the coffin of pro hockey in the United States. With all this in mind hockey took yet another blow the other week when All-Star Vancouver Canuck Todd Bertuzi, sucker-punched NHL Colorado Avalanche rookie, Steve Moore. Bertuzi then drove Moore's head into the ice, cracking several vertebra in his neck. Not only was Moore done for the season, his life and career became intertwined into a deadly game of jeopardy.

This premeditated attack stems from an earlier act of 'so called thugery' earlier in the season when Moore collided with another Canuck all-star, Markus Naslund, giving him a concussion and thus Naslund was on I.R. for 3 weeks. The Canucks complained it was an elbow to the head that caused this but when I have viewed the clip of this incident, I conclude that it was an accidental hit of two players playing the puck. But to each his won opinion.

The Canucks would later say they would seek revenge, but in the next meeting between the two teams, nothing happened. But the second meeting afterward startled even most Canuck fans. After Moore was slammed to the ice, he lay in a pool of his own blood and lay senseless and unconscious. Moore was taken to a hospital in critical condition but would make it through the night. He would end up being upgraded to more stabler conditions, but no one knows yet if his injuries could end his career.

It is clear to me, however, that hockey has gotten a bad reputation as a goon sport. Letting adults fight one another while officials and fans stare on cheering their team member while the two wail away at each other. This can have a positive and a negative affect on hockey. Some people go purely to see a hockey game filled with blood and gore, but there are some hockey purists out there who don't like the fighting and they often group into groups of people who are outsiders of hockey and know little about the sport. But to add injury to insult of the whole mess, the sports media boo-birds came out of the closet and started bashing pro-hockey for its violent thugery. All that i can say now is that people who don't understand the game, are not going to follow it and won't like it. They will bash it any time they get a chance, hence the media. Hockey will never go over well with or without hockey. Until then things will have to work the way they are. Hockey is a rough sport; Either you can take it or you can't. However, Bertuzi's act crossed the line, big time!

Tim Clark is a sophomore and is a writer and works for the Spartana. The views and opinions expressed in this editorial do not necessarily represent those of the Spartana *or of its staff.*

Revolution

Childers anticipates the sun, surf, and scantily-clad girls of Spring Break

evan childers
writer

Ah Spring Break. Just one day away.

Look at the clocks, ladies and gentlemen, look at time tick away and bring us steadily closer to that dream-made-real, the dream that some call Spring Break. I would like to dedicate part of this article to the glorious vacation that we call Spring Break. And, in honor of that beautiful week, I am going to write this article in the haphazard, random manner of Spring Break. I will jump from topic to topic.

So first, let us talk about vacation spots. I can imagine mine now: The sand, the sun, the ocean. The relaxation. Florida is practically at my fingertips... Soon I'll be waking up late in the afternoon and taking short swims in the brisk sea... Soon the cool ocean breeze will be floating overhead as I lounge on the beach. There won't be a cloud in the sky, nothing but carefree strolls on the beach, and long afternoon naps. Soon I'll have a chance to get a tan and enjoy everything there is to enjoy about the warmer, more tropical climates of the world. Soon we all will.

Well, not all of us.

Sadly, not everyone gets to journey to Florida and Cancun, to ocean resorts and sunny climates. Some people have the misfortune of being stranded in Fort Wayne Indiana. Or in Ohio visiting family. What a sad, sad thing that must be.

So, because I am a compassionate person, I would like to dedicate this sentence, and at least 60 % of this article, to all of you who are not staying somewhere enjoyable. For all of you out there who are going to have a less than excellent time, I am truly, deeply sorry.

Everyone out there! Remember those sad souls stranded in Fort Wayne! Realize, as you sit on Daytona Beach, sipping your lemonade, that some people are not so lucky! If you can, dedicate one minute out of each day to your friends who are stuck at home, or stuck visiting family in some strange land like Canada. Remember those families who have sacrificed their time to keep Fort Wayne from being completely deserted, remember those whom you have enlisted to care for your cats and dogs, and gather your old newspapers! Where would we be without them, I ask you? Well we would still probably be in Florida, but that's beyond that point. Anyway, bottom line; just remember how lucky you are.

Let us pause for a moment and consider why Spring Break is so great: There is no school, there's always a party, and there's no school.

For those of you out there who must stay home: Don't worry! I have a few ideas of what you might do with your time. First of all, you could put on some beach clothes, and since we don't have an ocean, you can run outside and frolic in the sprinkler instead. Of course, it will probably be around 20 degrees, so you won't be able to frolic for very long without catching pneumonia. Don't you worry though! After your refreshing run through the sprinkler, you can get a nice, expensive tan at one of my many local tanning booths. Skin cancer is included free of charge! Or if you prefer to sunbathe naturally, you can doze off in a snowbank somewhere and catch a few of those precious UV rays. And there are many other fun things to do in Fort Wayne, and many exciting places to go! Okay, that's a blatant lie, but honestly I'm sure you'll find something to do in good ole' Fort Wayne. Okay that's a lie too; there's not really any chance of you finding anything exciting to do here. Sorry.

But I cannot stay sorrowful about those who will be left behind. Imagine! At 2:15 today, we will all be free for one beautiful week. Even when we return, steeped in regret, we have only a half-dozen weeks left before the end of school. Before summer.

I salivate at the thought.

Even those of you not running off to Florida cannot be upset about that.

Let us pause for a moment and consider why Spring Break is so great: There is no school, there's always a party, and there's no school. These are the three major reasons that Spring Break is so great.

Among other things worth commenting on: March Madness reaches its undeniably gut-wrenching climax during Spring Break. What a beautiful thing. Of course by this time most of our brackets have been utterly mutilated, so there are few of us left with a stake left in the Big Game. But, nevertheless, we all watch it.

Also: Girls and bikinis. Nice.

Also: It's a whole damn week long!

So anyway, I'm about through here. I hope this random article has been as much fun for you as it's been for me. If I've managed to distract you for a short while, if I've managed to bring Spring Break that much closer to you, then I've accomplished my goal. I hope we all meet again in a world of peace and love when Spring Break ends. But for now, Farewell, Goodbye, and Au Revoir my dear, dear friends. I'll see you all later.

Evan Childers is a junior and is a writer and works for the Spartana. The views and opinions expressed in this editorial do not necessarily represent those of the Spartana *or of its staff.*

the Spartana
EMINENCE

(em´ə-n əs) n. a person of high station or great achievements

DAUNTINGLY Fierce

Boys rugby covets consecutive state placement, win over Carroll, regardless of two beginning losses

evan childers
writer

The rugby season is in full swing now - the boys teams has played several matches. While the team receives little recognition for their feats, the squad is full of hard-working individuals and team spirit.

Rugby is a relatively unknown sport in the United States, and it's rules are unfamiliar to most people. The sport originated in Australia, and it is very similar to American football. Two teams of 15 players take the field for the purpose of scoring a try against the other team. One squad accomplishes this by carrying the ball across the opposing team's goal line. This is worth 5 points. The team then sends a player to attempt to kick the ball between two goal posts, which is similar to a field goal attempt in football. This attempt, if successful, is worth another two points. The teams cannot block for their players, can only pass the ball backwards, and must tackle above the waist but below the head. When the ball goes out of bounds, it is thrown back in and the two teams each lift a single player up in an attempt to gain possession of the ball. When a player is tackled or a team is penalized, a scrum occurs. A scrum consists of 8 players from each team, called the pack, attempting to kick the ball to their half of the team. The other seven players are called backs, and they are the faster, more agile individuals who attempt to score once the ball comes into play.

This year's boys squad has started 0-2 after losing two tough matches to Penn and Marion respectively. But the team won a pre-season game against Carroll during the Snow Bowl and still has high expectations. Members of the squad thoroughly enjoy the experience of playing rugby.

"We hope to beat Bishop Dwenger. We also want to get back to state like last year."

-Matt Young (12)

"Rugby is a good sport because you get to hit people without pads," Matt Young (12) said.

This year's team, under the leadership of its seniors such as Jeff Salamone (12), has several goals and expectations.

"We hope to beat Bishop Dwenger," Young said. "We also want to get back to state like last year."

Under the direction of coaches Gabe Lopez and Randy Harding, the boys rugby team placed fourth in the state last year.

photos / will vragovic

Above: Joe Pasquali (11) wraps up an opponent from Marion during a match. Left, Jeff Salamone (12) searches for team mates to pass the ball as opponents from Penn close in. Below: J.P. Kendall (10), Tim Tolintino (12), and Mark Vragovic (12) fight to prevent an opponent from scoring during the Penn match-up. Below right: Tim Tolintino (12) runs the ball while his adversaries attempt to down him. Top right: Nick Zee-Cheng (12) drags a player from Marion to the ground while players from Homestead swarm around the pair.

the SPARTANA

Homestead High School 4310 Homestead Rd Fort Wayne, IN 46814

Volume 34 Issue 8 May 7, 2004 Contact us at TheSpartana@hotmail.com

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Sports & Views C

Sprinting ahead

Entertainment C

Spreading hope

page 1c

Spring Arts Week creates a cultural display of students' talents in a wide variety of fields including orchestra, show choir, jazz band, dance, and winter guard. Artwork in all forms of media were also featured.

photos / zach hetrick

Festive Spring Arts Week provides break for students

zafar sayed
news editor

The recent season's change has brought about a host of new events in the community and the school itself. Last week from April 26-30, "Spring Arts Week" took place - a five day celebration of creativity made for students by the students. Beginning with a school-wide convocation, and finally ending with an after school Coffee House, the event proved successful in its goal of art appreciation and awareness.

On Monday and Tuesday of "Spring Arts Week", classes alternately attended an assembly held in the gymnasium. Featured performers included the Orchestra, Show Choir, Jazz Band, and Color Guard. The choir performed a variety of songs, including the gospel "My Soul 's been Anchored in the Lord".

"I enjoyed the performances and was amazed at the quality of all of them," vocalist and participant Tom Stoffel (12) said.

While many students enjoyed the activities as a welcome break from the classroom, opinions were mixed.

"They [the audience] could have been a lot nicer, and some people were very rude," guard performer Allison O'Hargan (12) said.

The remainder of the week, students were free to attend to the art gallery held in the Community Room, whether as a class, or between passing periods. The works on display were all student created and included all mediums from different art classes: sculpture, drawings, computer graphics, videos, and silk screen. In addition to simply being exhibited, students had the option of pricing their art work for sale. Several pieces were sold during the week.

Jason LaFrenais (12) sold his piece entitled "To pass as a day . . ." to Principal Dianne Moake, to be displayed in the school.

"I thought it went very well; there was a lot of positive feedback from the students. I was a little bit disappointed to see that one of my pieces had been snatched though," LaFrenais said.

On Friday, from 6-9 p.m., the front commons of the school was home to student bands and Espresso Gallery drinks as part of the culminating Coffee House. Several acts such as the Smatch Machine Collective, the Wookies, and the Graffenburgs, participated in the evening event which was highly successful.

Jon Lubkert who worked during the show, also believed the event was popular with students.

"It was a great opportunity for people to hang out, drink some coffee, and listen to some great music." After a well executed week's worth of events, students may hope to continue "Spring Arts Week" as a yearly tradition.

Top: Lauren Turkow (12) concentrates on the piece she is playing on her violin during the orchestra's performance during Spring Arts Week. Turkow won the Sterling Sentinel in the musical instrument category. Middle Left: Bridget Pearson (12) sings a solo while performing with Class Royale. Class Royale has their final performance May 21 in Gala. Middle Right: The jazz band performs several pieces for the students and faculty during the convocation. Bottom Left: Trevor Alt (10) and Becky Sawyer (12) dance during Class Royale's performance. Bottom Right: Dave Frebel (12) visits the Art Gallery in the community rooms.

photos / zach hetrick

Government teacher wins scholarship

rohith iyer
associate copy editor

Homestead social studies teacher Keith Potter was selected as one of fifty recipients of a national scholarship for the We the People program.

The We the People program is offered as a class for government credit. Students use a text comprising of six units with forty lessons on the history and principles of constitutional democracy. Strategies include critical thinking exercises, problem-solving activities, cooperative learning practices, and a culminating authentic performance assessment.

The We the People program, whose primary goal is to promote civic competence and responsibility among the nation's elementary and secondary students, nominates one teacher from each state whose class did not qualify for the national competition for the Scholarship Teacher Program. This year, Potter was selected as Indiana's representative.

Potter joined forty-nine teachers from across the country for the We the People National finals, which were held at the Hyatt Regency in Arlington, Virginia from May 1-3.

Through the scholarship, each teacher received a firsthand perspective of the national competition, and participated in activities with the competing students, teachers, and judges.

The Scholarship Teacher Program included an in-depth orientation for scholarship teachers, and a chance to visit class hearings in groups with an assigned teacher mentor. In addition, scholarship teachers attended event receptions and an awards banquet dinner.

Scholarship teachers also had the opportunity to tour the Washington D.C area on the afternoon of May 2.

"It [was] a great opportunity for me," Potter said. "I [was] able to observe the teams who compete nationally, and help prepare my classes for next year. "

Les Mis' opens May 7

Tom Stoffel (12) rehearses for Les Miserables, which opens May 7, and also runs May 8, 14,15. Tom co-stars with Brett Hunter (12), Brian Quigley (12), and Jaime Blosser (11). The musical features a 35 member orchestra. The whole musical is sung, words are never spoken as dialogue.

the Spartana
PITHY
(pith´e) adj. concisely meaningful

Spartan Briefs

Earthfest

The second annual Earthfest will be taking place on Thursday, May 13, on Homestead's north lawn. The festivities will include student and teacher bands, food, and games, as well as other activities. The event is the climax of a week of school activities designed to raise consciousness about environmental issues. All proceeds raised from fundraising activities surrounding Earthfest are going to be given to the Aboite Trails Committee.

Advanced Placement

The first Advance Placement exams will be given starting May 6. The advance placement exams allow students to test out and receive credit for classes they may have had to take while in college. Advance Placement courses are college level classes that students may be able to take in high school. For many classes teachers have set up review sessions after school to prepare the students for the tests.

Summer School

Informational packets and registration forms for Summer School can be picked up in the main office and student services. Students who participate in Summer School have the opportunity to receive credit in the classes they take. This is especially useful when taking classes in English where 8 credits are needed to graduate. Also, if students choose to, they can take physical education during the summer for four weeks and avoid taking it for a semester during school. There are two sessions of Summer School-one from June 7 - July 2 and the other from July 6 - August 2.

Scholarships and Awards

Students who have won scholarships or awards and would like to be recognized should notify Mrs. Nelson in Student Services. Often times the school is unaware of extracurricular achievements and would like to honor students who receive recognition in their extracurricular activities.

New Curriculum

The Southwest Allen County Board has approved new curriculum for mathematics courses. In addition, the board has allowed the school to buy new math text books for the 2004 - 2010 school years. The recently approved curriculum meets the state standards for Indiana. Due to the curriculum change from the 2004 - 2005 year, the lowest level math course offered will be Algebra 1. In addition, ALPHA Algebra II and Alpha Trigonometry with Data Analysis will be renamed as Honors courses.

Journalism Honor Roll

Nineteen members of publication staffs have been awarded the 2004 National Scholastic Press Association Journalism Honor Roll. In order to be eligible for the award students must have been a member of a publication staff for a year, have a grade point average of at least 3.75 on a 4.0 scale and have the recommendation of the publication teacher.

Radio News

The radio station at Homestead participated in the Indiana Association of School Broadcaster Awards Competition. The competition was held at the University of Indianapolis on March 8. Students Joe Pasquali and Chris Copley won first place in the Football play-by-play Broadcasting category and Junior Eric DeFreeuw received second place in Radio Sportcasting.

Key Club

Although it's getting towards the end of the year, Key Club is still accepting new members. Members of Key Club have the opportunity to volunteer and help those around the community. To sign up come to one of the meetings which are held on Thursdays after school, from 2:50 pm to 3:15 pm.

Science Fair

Students Jason Leung (11) and Zafar Sayed (12) received awards and honors at the Regional and State Science Fairs. The students participated in the ALPHA Mentorship program which allowed them to work on independent research. The students worked with a professors at IPFW to help guide them through their research. Leung, whose project was titled "Anodic Stripping Voltammetry for Mercury at a Carbon Paste Electrode", won first place in the senior division in Chemistry at the regional Science Fair and won third place at the State Science Fair. Sayed, whose project was titled "Immunosenescence: A comparative analsis between mature/adolescent immune enhancement using elderberry fractions", won first in the category of Medicine and Health at the Regional Science Fair and won a special first place from the Indiana Osteopathic Society at the State Science Fair.

JCL

At the state convention the Junior Classical League won over 177 awards. Allison Cosbey and Hari Vasu both won two of the five prestigious Individual Academic Awards. These were awarded based on the amount of points won at JCL competitions. The team placed third overall in the JCL Sweepstakes.

Calendar

5.3 Advance Placment exams begin 5.19 Academic Awards Night 5.22 Junior-Senior Pom 5.24 FineArts Awards 5.26 Spring Athletic Awards 6.1-3 Final Exams 6.5 Graduation at the Memorial Coliseum

Advanced Placement tests start on May 3

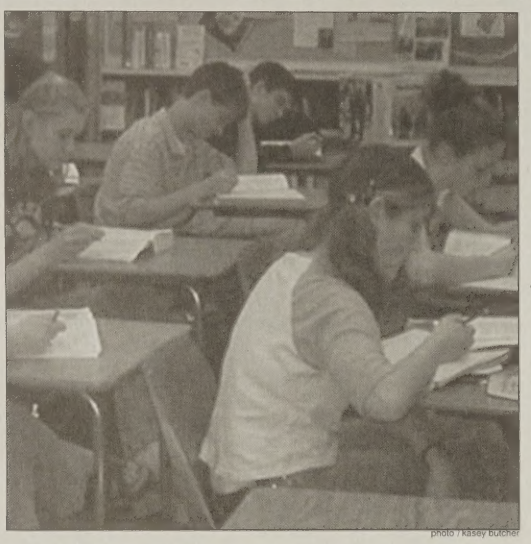


photo / kasey butcher

Students in block stay after school to prepare for the A.P. exam. During the study sessions teacher Jim Schmidt gives advice to students on how to score well.

caitlin myers
writer

As students head through May, testing continues for the Advanced Placement exams. AP tests can allow students to test out of college courses.

AP exams started on May 3rd and they will run until May 14th. There is a specific day that each test is held on and all students that wish to take these exams are able to take it that day only.

Before taking the exams, students prepare themselves in a variety of different ways. There were many after school study sessions that occurred at different days during the week, there were practice tests that took place, and students looked over the AP Review books. Teachers were also helping the students prepare for their tests.

"I went to review sessions after school with the teachers and I was able take notes for both tests that I took," Maaria Ahmed (11) said. "I also had AP Review Books that I went over and I have taken practice tests."

There were other AP classes that did not have study sessions after school, so the students taking these classes were required to study a little different than other students.

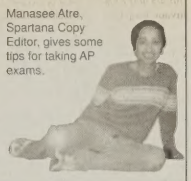
"For the tests that I took, there were no after school study sessions. To study, I just looked back over the material we learned during the semester, took notes, and highlighted," Meredith Denney (11) said. "We were also writing a lot of essays in class and we took notes to help us review."

The amount it costs to take some of the tests is around $85.00. However, there were some tests that did not require any money.

"It is expensive to take AP exams, especially if your taking more than one," Denney said. "I think that the money issue is a factor that prevents a lot of students who would like to take the AP exams from taking them."

Tips for the test from an AP Veteran

1. Know the format of the test.
2. Review subject material from the A.P. class.
3. Go over practice A.P. questions.
4. On test day, take a watch, extra pencils, an eraser, a calculator (if you are taking a math test), and a sweater (in case the test room is cold).
5. Relax!



Manasee Atre, Spartana Copy Editor, gives some tips for taking AP exams.

Coffee house brings students in for fine arts show

Right: Hubie Ashcraft ('02) and Kyle Gilpin (12) play guitar during a performance by student band 12 and 2. Above: A crowd watches a student band.

suhasini bhargava
associate entertainment editor

A deviation from everyday happenings in the front commons of the school building, the coffeehouse, which was organized by the National Honor Society, brought music, food, and drink to the celebration of the spring fine arts week.

On Friday, April 30, the National Honor Society arranged a coffeehouse from 6:00 p.m.. to 9:00 p.m. in hopes to raise funds for the art department. NHS also planned on contributing profits from the coffeehouse to multiple charities.

The coffeehouse functioned as an attraction for crowds visiting the art galleries in the community room. Throughout fine arts week, art created by students was showcased in the community rooms; the art was also available for purchase. The coffeehouse provided an opportunity for students, faculty, and members of the community to appreciate visual art created by students while enjoying a cup of coffee with refreshments.

NHS also encouraged a creative theme by incorporating art into the atmosphere. Tables covered in cardboard were setup with crayons to give visitors a chance to draw while enjoying coffee. Musical bands such as "The Wookies" and "The Graffenburgs" were added to the evening for extra flavor.

"The atmosphere was fun and the bands were amazing," Jenni Coplen (11) said.

The coffee was furnished by Espresso Gallery, a local café. Members of the National Honor Society teamed with members of the Hospitality Club to provide refreshments. The Hospitality Club baked cookies, brownies, and other baked goods for the coffeehouse. National Honor Society members also aided in arranging trays and the serving of food. Although admission to the coffeehouse was free, sales from the coffee and refreshments allowed the National Honor Society to raise money for the fine arts department.

Numerous members of the National Honor Society dedicated time and effort toward making the coffeehouse project a reality. Several weeks prior to Spring Arts Week, members of the National Honor Society divided into committees and took on responsibility for decoration, advertising, drinks and refreshments, and entertainment.

"I was in charge of talking to espresso gallery and figuring out the menu for the coffee house, so I asked people what they generally order when they go to espresso or other coffee houses," Sreeya Yalamanchali (11) said. "Then I just went to espresso and talked with the owner and we came up with some drinks that most people would like."

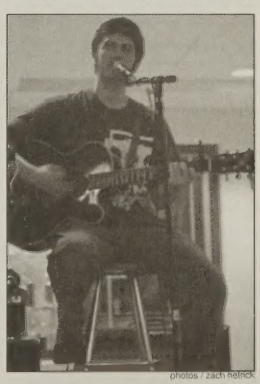
The advertising committee promoted the coffeehouse with various flyers, poster, and announcements.

"We wrote stuff for the morning announcements and the sign in the front," Sushma Jonnalagadda (11) said. "We also made the posters."

Throughout the months of February and March, National Honor Society members communicated with advisor Steve Clough. National Honor Society also painted posters and backdrops for the bands in order to transform the front commons area into a coffeehouse.

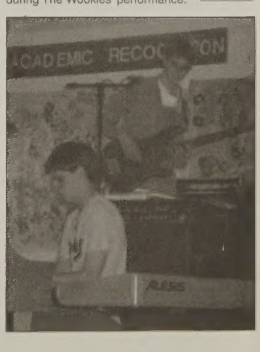
"We added a lot of color to the posters because we wanted them to be lively and energetic," Yalamanchali said. "The hand and feet prints ended up looking really nice."

Students and faculty alike appreciated the new concept of the coffeehouse and took advantage of the artistic atmosphere to enjoy music, visual art, and coffee.



photos / zach reitnick

Above: Sam Adams (12) plays guitar and sings during his solo act. Below: Brooks Frederickson (11) and Matt Corrall (12) play during The Wookies' performance.



(pûr'vyoo') n. Range of vision, comprehension, or experience; outlook

the Spartan PURVIEW

3a

May 7, 2004

Commission impossible

9/11 commission sheds light on terrorist attacks

kasey butcher
associate news editor

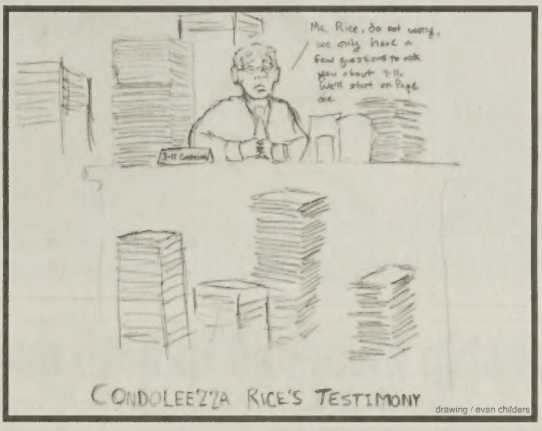
Over two and a half years after the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001, the United States government is still investigating what went wrong and how they could have better protected the country.

Congress has created, over the Bush administration's objections, a ten member bipartisan commission with the task of uncover the full truth behind the attacks, any defense or intelligence mishaps, and how the government can prevent future attacks. The commission, formerly called the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States, must file their report by July 26. Their findings may not be released to the public right away, however, because they are subject to a White House security review first.

Not making the Commission's job any easier is the task of sorting out fact from fiction in former Counterterrorism chief, Richard Clarke's, new book "Against All Enemies: Inside America's War on Terror." The book, released on March 22, accuses the Bush administration of failing to heed regular warnings about al Qaeda threats and looking for any excuse to invade Iraq. Clarke also criticized National Security Advisor Condoleezza Rice, claiming that, until he informed her, she did not know about al Qaeda.

"Basically, the president botched the response to 9/11," Clarke told "Good Morning America." "He should have gone right after Afghanistan, right after bin Laden. And then he made the whole war on terrorism so much worse by invading Iraq...I think we could have had a good chance to get bin Laden, to get the leadership and wipe the whole organization out..."

The Bush administration, Rice in particular, denied Clarke's allegations, claiming that Clarke had taken the liberty for "retrospective rewriting of the history." As the commission began to hold public hearings, after the release of Clarke's book, Rice faced pressure to testify publicly after taking part in private meetings with the panel on earlier dates. Rice initially resisted the public testimony because she believed it would set a "bad precedent" for her position to do so. Other worries included separation of powers issues. Rice, however, did agree to a public testimony held on Thursday, April 8. In her testimony, Rice vehemently defended the Bush Administration, noting the short 233 day period of tenure before the attacks, and offered an apology to the families and friends of the victims.



drawing / evan childers

"There was no silver bullet that could have prevented the 9/11 attacks," Rice said.

Intelligence Agencies, including the FBI and CIA were next to be questioned by the panel. According to Thomas Kean, chairman of the commission, the main objectives for the intelligence investigations would be how our government was built to address the issue of terrorism before 9/11, the appearance of threat in 2001 and how the government reacted to it, how the intelligence agencies reacted, and what reforms have been made since the terrorist attacks.

The Commission faulted US Intelligence on April 15 of being poorly organized and of having critical communication gaps. CIA Director George Tenet was also blamed for not having an effective management strategy before the attacks. Tenet testified that it will take another five years to bring the intelligence infrastructure up to meet the nation's needs. The FBI and CIA are currently working together to make the necessary adjustments and some lawmakers have proposed a new domestic intelligence agency that would be structured after Great Britain's intelligence system.

"Three thousand people died," Tenet told the commission. "No matter how hard we worked or how desperately we tried, it was not enough. The victims and the families of 9/11 deserve better."

Major topics of commission interest came up during the intelligence hearings. One such item, the "Phoenix memo," is an article written by an FBI field agent in Arizona suggesting the further investigation of Middle Eastern men learning to fly planes in the United States. Another memo especially caught the attention of the panel. A presidential daily briefing (PDB) entitled "Bin Laden determined to attack inside the U.S." was declassified by the White House on April 10 at the commission's request.

In the memo is information on intelligence reports of al Qaeda sending agents to the U.S through Canada in May 2001, reports that al Qaeda had been researching ways to hijack planes, intelligence information on al Qaeda operatives traveling in and out of the country, and that more than seventy FBI investigations were taking place in 2001 searching for al Qaeda operations in the States.

"We have not been able to corroborate some of the more sensational threat reporting, such as that from a [redacted] service in 1998 saying that bin Laden wanted to hijack a U.S. aircraft to secure the release of 'Blind Sheikh' Omar Adbel Rahman and other U.S.-held extremists," the memo says.

In a statement released on April 10, the White House defended itself claiming the memo did not mention the usage of aircraft as weapons. The administration also claimed that most of the information focused on targets outside the country.

Kidnapped student found after months long disappearance

puja parikh
designer

"Dru is home," Sheriff Mark LeTexier sobbed as he told volunteers. "Dru is home."

On Saturday, April 17, the body of University of North Dakota student Dru Sjodin was found in a ravine near a county road northwest of Crookston, her offender's hometown. Volunteers had been near a ravine numerous times, but the area had been covered with snow. The recent spring thaw revealed the body.

Many volunteers joined the search on Saturday for the 22-year-old student, who was last seen in November at the Grand Forks mall where she worked. While some of Sjodin's relatives continued searching throughout winter, official searches were halted in December because of the severe weather conditions. The search was resumed this month.

Chris Lang, Sjodin's boyfriend told The Associated Press on Saturday, "It just kind of feels numb. I woke up this morning, and I just knew for sure it was going to happen today. Now I know she's been at peace for a long time."

Lang was the last person known to have heard from Sjodin, when she spoke to him via cell phone after leaving Victoria's Secret, where she worked.

At a court hearing last month, investigators testified that blood matching Sjodin's DNA was found in Alfonso Rodriguez Jr's. car. Police say they also found a knife in the car that matches a sheath discovered near Sjodin's car. Rodriguez, the convicted sex offender, has pleaded not guilty to kidnapping Sjodin, of Pequot Lakes, Minnesota. Rodriguez was arrested in December and is jailed in Grand Forks, about 25 miles northwest of Crookston, on a five million dollar bail.

While neither Minnesota or North Dakota has capital punishment, federal law does allow the death penalty for murder committed during a kidnapping. Minnesota US Attorney Tom Heffelfinger and his North Dakota counterpart, Drew Wrigley, told The Associated Press that it was too early to discuss whether federal murder charges would be pursued.

Regardless of this outcome, Bob Heales, the private investigator who coordinated the search efforts for the Sjodin family, said that Sjodin's friends and family feel relieved that Sjodin had been found.

"Dru's coming home and that's what we've wanted from the beginning," he told The Associated Press. "We never wanted to go through life without knowing where she was."

Evidence

**DNA match found in offender's car*
**knife found in offender's car matches sheath near victim's car*

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Family Fun Night
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**SACS American Idols Competition *Swimming *Inter-School Basketball Tourney *Carnival Games *Rock Wall* Much much more*

News briefs from around the globe

javed sayed
designer

North Korea

On April 23, a train blast in North Korea left over 150 people dead and more than 1300 injured. After the blast, the normally secretive North Korea opened its arms to foreign help and allowed foreign aid workers to come into the country. South Korea's Red Cross is planning on sending bottled mineral water, blankets and clothing once North and South Korean officials figure out a way to transport the supplies. The blast destroyed between 1800 and 2000 homes and was spread out within a radius of about 2.5 miles. The exact details of how the blast occurred still remain unknown; however, several speculate over the cause. Some say that the train blast was the result of an explosive accident, while other reports claim that the train blast was actually a collision between two trains.

U.S.

In a radio address on Saturday, April 4, President Bush touted his environmental record and unveiled his plan for a wetlands initiative to restore "at least 3 million acres over the next five years." The new environmental plan marks a distinct change in the administration's policy which was previously one of "no net loss" of wetlands. The address was geared towards the concepts of Earth Day.

Republic of Congo

A group of United Nations troops patrolling in the Democratic Republic of Congo, in Africa, on Saturday, April 24 were surrounded by Rwandan troops and were forced to go back to the United Nations's base. United Nations's officials claimed that more than 400 troops who were wearing Rwandan military uniforms encircled the group of South African peace keepers, while a United Nations helicopter surveillance team estimated that there were many more Rwandan troops nearby. Government officials in Rwanda denied having sent their troops across the border into the Democratic Republic of Congo. The United Nations patrolling team was investigating reports regarding Rwandan claims that it had been attacked from Congo by 200 rebels when they were rebuffed.

China

Health officials in China are keeping more than 470 people under quarantine, as officials there try to contain a number of small outbreaks of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome or SARS in Beijing and some other parts of China. Recently in Beijing there has been one confirmed case of SARS and more than five suspected cases of SARS most of which are under observation. Additionally, over 300 persons who may have come into contact with the virus are also under observation. Workers from the World Health Organization are also present in China to help stop the outbreaks of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome.

Iraq

The United States extended the deadline in Fallujah in Iraq for the handing over of heavy weaponry in the city. Persons residing in Fallujah now have until Tuesday, April 27. The agreement came after coalition discussions with residents of the city. The coalition plans on begging patrols of the city on Tuesday to make sure inhabitants are complying with the decision. The patrols will be composed of Iraqi Defense Corps, the Iraqi Police Service, and coalition forces. Officials say that they will treat anyone who is armed who isn't authorized to use the weapon as hostile.

Mexico

Over the past decade more than 100 brands of candy imported into California from Mexico have been tested and found to have high levels of lead. However, little if any action has taken place against the manufacturers of the candy. The candy which was mostly marketed to Latino children, usually stayed on the shelves, and the public usually was not notified of the test results. Californian officials claim that they do not have the resources necessary to tackle the problem, and have little jurisdiction over the Mexican manufacturers.

For local and school related news briefs see page 2a

the Spartan EXALT

(eg-zolt') v. to glorify, praise, or honor

Students scope scholarships with help of Career Resource Center

Located in Student Services office, the CRC provides information through websites, brochures

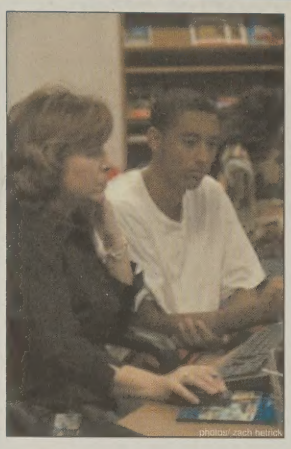
alicia batchelder
writer

As students prepare for graduation and moving onto college, many begin to realize how the prices for pursuing post-high school education have skyrocketed in the past years. Therefore, many begin a search for scholarships. These scholarships will help students finance their continuing education.

Some students find the Career Resource Center (CRC), located in student services, to be a helpful place to work on their search. The CRC holds information that helps students make career decisions and college choices. The center also holds scholarship information. Most of its financial aid information is presented in the forms of books, but the CRC also holds several computers that students may use for their college and scholarship searches. There are many websites that have information and aid available for students who are looking for ways to find money for continuing their education. Some informative websites about scholarships include www.fastweb.com and www.collegeboard.com.

The CRC is open for the use of students at any time during the school day. Any student who wishes to take advantage of the help that the CRC offers should make their way to student services, where they can find help with their college and scholarship searches.

The CRC is used by many students who wish to use the resources made available to them through the CRC and student services.



photos/ zach hellrich

Throughout the week of April 26, the CRC area of student services was used to conduct arena scheduling.

C -Career Resource Center (CRC) is located in student services

R -Provides information about colleges and scholarships

C -Offers details about SAT and Act

The shelves at the Career Resource Center are stocked with books and pamphlets about scholarships and colleges.

Lily Endowment Scholarship awarded to both nominees

Carmen Schlatter (12) and Duke Lines (12) receive full tuition for four years of undergraduate study

thao ngo
writer

During this 2003-2004 school year, twelve Allen County students will receive the Lily Endowment Community Scholarship. Each year, Homestead selects two nominees for this scholarship program. Duke Lines (12) and Carmen Schlatter (12), were this year's Homestead candidates for this prestigious program. This is the first year that both of the Homestead nominees were selected to receive the scholarship since the program started in the spring of 1997.

High schools that have more than 200 seniors graduating during the 2003-2004 school year are permitted to nominate two candidates from their school.

The Lily Endowment Community Scholarship will pay full tuition, required fees, and $800 per year for required books/equipment for fours consecutive of undergraduate study at any Indiana public or private college or university. However, the scholarship will not include room and board fees over the cost of $800.

"It is such a relief that I do not have to pay for college," Schlatter said. "It is such a blessing. It takes a lot of stress off my family."

"I was completely in shock, I didn't believe it when I heard I got it."

Carmen Schlatter (12)

To be an eligible candidate, the nominees must be a resident in Allen County. In addition, the candidates must complete the Indiana CORE 40 program and must graduate during the 2003-2004 school year with a diploma from an accredited high school in Allen County. In addition, applicants also must have applied to an accredited public or private university or college in Indiana. Also, the candidates must not be currently partaking in the 21st Century Scholar Program.

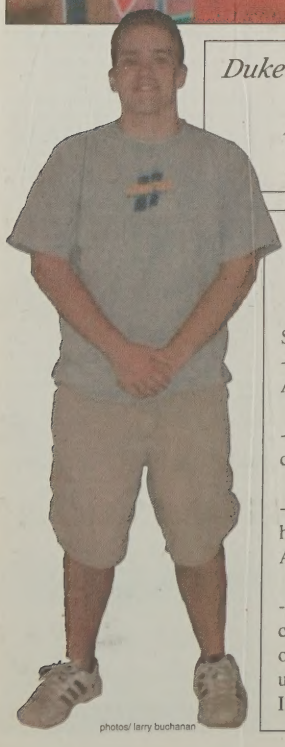
"I was completely in shock, I did not believe it when I heard I got it," Schlatter said.

Candidates for the scholarship also must rank in the top 40% of their class, and each candidate's family must have demonstrated financial need.

To apply for the scholarship, students must complete an application in full. Also, they must meet the eligibility guidelines and submit an essay along with the application.

The nominees are to maintain at least a 2.0 grade point average on a 4.0 G.P.A. scale to keep the four-year eligibility. If the G.P.A. were to drop below the 2.0 mark, students are allowed two semesters to raise it.

Information about this scholarship and applications are available at the Fort Wayne Community Foundation website, www.fwcf.org.



photos/ larry buchanan

Duke Lines

"It was a great honor to receive such a prestigious award. I was surprised about winning. I didn't think I would, but I am so happy that I did."

Guidelines for Lily Endowment

Students must:

-Be a resident of Allen County

-Complete the core 40 program

-Graduate from high school in Allen Country

-Apply to accredited public or private university in Indiana

1: Duke Lines (12) embraces his mother after receiving the Lily Grant Scholarship. The scholarship pays full tuition and required book fees for any college or university within the state of Indiana. 2: Carmen Schlatter (12) and Lines are awarded the scholarship in the Career Resource Center.

the Spartana
SPORTS & VIEWS
May 7, 2004
Contact the Sports and Views editor at TheSpartana@hotmail.com

photo / jason walley

Swinging away

tyler keena
writer

The boys' golf team is off to an undefeated start to their season and has improved their rank in the area power polls to number one.

The team started their season with a 22-stroke victory (162-184) over Concordia Lutheran at Homestead's home course, Chestnut Hills Golf Course. The team was led by Erich Johnston (9) and Paul Gauger (11), who shot 37 and 39 respectively. Mickey Mazock (11), Justin Humphries (11), and J.T. McLeod (11) also helped Homestead to their victory.

Homestead continued to roll through the competition in their next two matches, which were against conference foes DeKalb and Columbia City. Both matches took place at Homestead's home course. Justin Humphries led the team to victory over Dekalb by shooting a 37, while Mickey Mazock and Erich Johnston both shot 38 to help the Homestead charge. The Spartans won the match 153-171.

Erich Johnston once again led the Spartans to victory over Columbia City in their third match of the year. Homestead won the match 156-166, with Johnston shooting a 38, and David Childers (11) and J.T. McLeod both pitching in with 39.

After three impressive victories, the Spartans (ranked number two in the area power poll) headed into the toughest match of the year against conference rival Norwell, who was ranked first in the area.

"This was a huge match," said Paul Gauger (11). "We're a young team and we just wanted to go out and prove that we were underrated."

Homestead did just that with a one-stroke victory over Norwell. Jeff Mason (11) and Justin Humphries led the team by shooting 40, while Paul Gauger and Erich Johnston shot 41 and 42 respectively to lift Homestead to their close victory.

This win propelled Homestead to an undefeated

PEAK

Averaging 39.28 a round, Erich Johnston has been leading his team with the low score almost every single match this season. If that is not enough, Johnston is only a freshmen.

Johnston made his debut into varisty golf as number one on the team.

Johnston has contributed to keeping the teams average at a 40.6, fifth lowest in the area.

PERFORMER

photos / jason walley

Top: Paul Gauger (11) wills in a putt from the fringe. Middle: Justin Humphries (11) uses an iron for his fairway shot. Bottom: David Childers (11) chips in from the deep fringe. The team is undefeated and ranked number one in the area power poll.

Beginning of season proves well for girls tennis team

matt anderson
designer

So far, the girls tennis team's record stands at 25-0. That translates to, as of press time, they have a total of 25 individual points won against teams faced in head to head match play, zero lost.

Already proving they are a team to beat, the Spartans pushed up the rankings to 4th in state. The team has already beat Snider, Concordia, East Noble and Bishop Luers 5-0 and placed third in an invitational with all of the highest ranked teams in Indiana as of now.

"So far we have done extremely well," Connie Shim (12) said. "We played in the Carmel Invitational and placed 3rd only behind Carmel and North Central. Every single spot on the team managed to help us earn points."

Going into the season, the team returned their one singles, two singles, and the state runner-up one doubles team from last year's semi-state finalist team. With all of this experience on the team, and not to mention taking up the three top spots, it has been easier for the team to start their season off with the confidence needed to play comfortably and win.

"It really does help to have the seniors there to build you up," Erin Wright (10) said. "We have four seniors on the team this year, and most of them have been on varsity all four years. Having them on the team can take a lot of pressure off of the other spots."

At the Carmel Invitational, one singles player, Laura Phillip (12), placed 5th, Wright, a two singles player, placed third, and Shim and Brook Parish (12) placed third at one doubles. Freshman Amy Recht actually placed highest for the team getting second place overall. The two doubles team of Abby Carrigan (12) and Melissa Martin (10) got 7th place.

"I think that the fact that all of our teams placed well at the Invitational proves we are a good team," Shim said. "The seniors that our leading this team have been really close to state every year, and I think this is the year we are going to make it. We are just taking things one match at a time though, trying not to get ahead of ourselves."

Last year, the girls lost in the semi-state finals 2-3 to Zionsville, ending their chances at a state appearance, but they are hoping that with the addition of the three new varsity members and returning players in all of the top spots, the team will finally be able to make the trip to state.

"We really hope to make it to state this year," Wright said. "We have a pretty strong team, but first we have to get past Zionsville at semi-state. Both Zionsville and we have a lot of people returning from last year. We are all just concentrating on what we need to do to win our points."

The team will not see Zionsville until the semi-state round, and first must battle through area teams. They have been expecting state ranked Warsaw to show tough competition this season. The teams played on Monday, March 3 at Homestead.

"A lot of area teams are looking really good this year and cannot be looked past," Shim said. "We are pretty confident in our team, but so are some of the other teams. We will just have to play our best, and take things one point and match at a time."

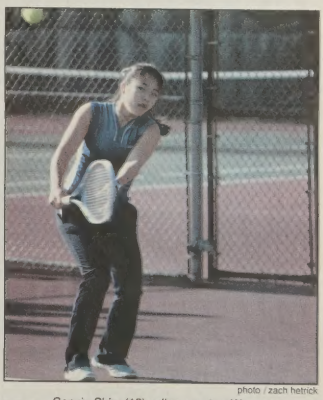


photo / zach hetrick

Connie Shim (12) vollyes against Warsaw.

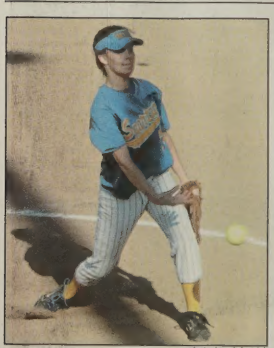


photo / zach hetrick

Amber Ludwig (11) hurls a softball to the mound.

Girls swing true in first half of softball season

jared baker
writer

Off to a 10-5 (1-1) start, the Lady Spartan softball team is meeting expectations with a solid beginning.* "I really thought we could have beaten the teams that we lost to…so we're doing well, but there's a lot of room to improve," says Ann McCullough (11), commenting on the teams performance so far.

Winning their conference opener against East Noble (a team who they haven't beaten in two years), 1-0 led by Amber Ludwig striking out 17 batters in 7 innings pitched giving up only 4 hits. Kristen Caldwell scored the only Homestead run hitting a triple (4) and scoring on a sac fly from Megan Outhwaite.

Columbia City (a front runner for the NHC title) defeated the lady Spartans 9-1 on the 28th, giving the girls their first conference loss. Katey O'Connor scored the only run off a sac fly from Kristen Caldwell.

"We basically just couldn't get it together. We couldn't hit the ball, and our fielding was atrocious." says Katey O'Connor (11).

The Lady Spartans have a tough road ahead of them to reach their regular season goal of conference champs.

"I think we have a good chance at winning the conference this year, it'll definitely be tough, but I think we can do it." says McCullough.

The defense of the Spartans, led by ace pitcher Amber Ludwig, who owns several strikeout records, is what has really let the Spartans take off this year.

"Our defense has been solid as expected." says Beth McCullough (10).

The hitting has also been outstanding for the girls, led by Kristen Caldwell (12), second in the area in triples with 4, and Katey O'Connor , hitting .372.

"Our hitting has really taken off lately which has led us to a solid start to the season." says O'Connor.

Coming off two disappointing losses to Concordia, 6-5, and Southern Wells, 3-2, the girls are determined to bounce back and start their conference season with a bang.

"We did a great job coming out and beating East Noble, Columbia City was a tough loss but I think we can get over it and win conference still." says Ann.

photo / zach hetrick

The team huddles before the team bats.

the Spartana DISPORT

(dĭ - spôrt′) v. to occupy oneself with diversion or amusement

Spartan Briefs

— Pacers Basketball —

The Pacers finished first overall in the National Basketball League with a 61-21 mark. The Pacers ended their regular season on April 14th, with a 5-game winning streak that took them into the first round of the playoffs. Jermaine O'Neal finished the season ranked 7th in scoring, scoring 23.0 PPG. The Pacers beat the Boston Celtics in their opening round series in a four game sweep over the Celtics.

— Freedom Football —

The Fort Wayne Freedom, of the National Indoor Football League, are half way through their season and have compiled a 3-3 mark, with wins over Show Me, Evansville, and Atlantic City. Losses have come against Lexington (2) and Evansville. The Freedom host Ohio Valley May 8th and Staten Island on May 21st.

— Cubs Baseball —

The Chicago Cubs are in the beginning stages of what hopes to be another fantastic season. The Cubs are 14-10 and are a game back of Houston for first in the Central division. Moises Alou leads the Cubs in batting average with a .352 average. He also leads the Cubs in homers with 7 along with Aramis Ramirez. Sammy Sosa has 5 homers and a .264 BA. Matt Clement leads the Cubs in wins and ERA with 4 wins and an ERA of 1.95. Kerry Wood has 3 wins and an ERA of 2.52 that is second on the team. The Cubs play St. Louis and Houston twice, will be playing Colorado, San Diego, Pittsburgh, San Francisco, Arizona, and Los Angeles each once throughout the month of May.

— NASCAR Racing —

The NASCAR Nextel cup series has entered it's third month of racing this month. Dale Earnhardt Jr. leads the points by 5 over second place Kurt Busch. Matt Kenseth is third, only 12 points behind 'Junior.' In the last few races; Rusty Wallace ended an 105 race winning drought with a win at the Advanced Auto Parts 500 at Martinsville Motor Speedway. Jeff Gordon went on to win the next two races; The Aarons 499 at the Talladega Motor Speedway and the Auto Club 500 at the California Speedway. Upcoming races include: The Chevy American Revolution 500 at the Richmond International Raceway on May 15, and the Nextel All-Star Challenge at the Lowes Motor Speedway on May 22nd, and the Coca-Cola 600 at the Lowes Motor Speedway on May 30th.

— Komet Hockey —

The Fort Wayne Komets of the Untied Hockey League are in the midst of the Colonial Cup Playoffs. The Komets are facing first round opponent, Kalamazoo, whom they had a 5-3-1 record against in the regular season. The Komets finished their season with a 53-17-6 record, breaking their franchise record for most wins in a season, which also spans through the IHL. The Komets were led in offense by Colin Chaulk and Kelly Perrault. They were led in goal by Kevin St. Pierre, last years WCHL MVP. Beginning the playoffs, the Komets lost game one of their first round series Kalamazoo, but then rebounded for two straight wins at home to take ahold of the series 2-1. The Komets lost game four in overtime but regrouped and won the decisive game 5 to win the series. The Komets then faced the third-seeded Muskegon Fury. The Fury took both Komet home games by 1-0 and 2-1 scores. The Fury then swept the Komets by winning the next two games in Muskegon by scores of 3-1 and 5-2.

— Wizard Baseball —

The Fort Wayne Wizards of the Midwest League are 11-12 and tied for 3rd place in the Eastern division. The Wizards started slow on a 1-6 pace after a 7 game road-trip, but have since rebounded for a 10-6 record since then. The Wizards will play at home against Western Michigan and Kane County from May 11th through the 18th. In other news, the Wizards were recently recognized as the Midwest League's "Team of the Year" by League President George Spelius. The award also brought two trophies for "best team promotions" and "best overall franchise." "The focus of Wizards Baseball in Fort Wayne is always the fan...This truly is a team award and we are proud to be recognized for the kind of product that we provide for our fans," said Mike Nutter, General Manager of the Wizards, on the team's website.

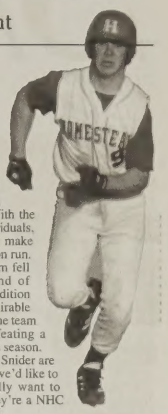
— NHL Hockey —

The NHL playoffs are in full swing after the ending of the first round. In the west, Detroit won its series over Nashville 4 game to 2. San Jose won its series over St. Louis 4 games to 1. Calgary upset Vancouver 4 games to 3. Colorado won its series 4 games to 1 over Dallas. In the east: Tampa Bay won its series over New York (Islanders) 4 games to 1. Montreal upset Boston 4 games to 3. Philadelphia won its series against New Jersey 4 games to 1. Toronto won its series over Ottawa 4 games to 3. In the second round, Calgary leads, Detroit 3-2. San Jose leads Colorado 3-2. In the east: Tampa Bay swept Montreal 4-0 and Philadelphia leads Toronto 3-2.

— NBA Playoffs —

4.30 New Orleans v.. Miami at 7:00 4.30 Denver v.. Minnesota at 9:30 5.1 LA Lakers v. Houston at 1:00 5.1 Detroit v. Milwaukee at 1:00 5.2 Miami v. New Orleans at 1:00 5.2 Sacramento v. Dallas at 1:00 5.2 Minnesota v. Denver at 2:00 5.3 Milwaukee v. Detroit at 12:00 5.3 Houston v. LA Lakers at 3:00

Baseball team strives to improve 4-7 midseason record



evan childers
writer

The Homestead Spartan baseball season is in full swing now, and the varsity squad has already found some success. Under the direction of head coach Keith Potter and Assistant Coach Tim Decker, the squad has attained a 4-7 (0-2) record.

"We started off kind of slow." Pitcher and second baseman Chris Copley (11) said. "We started off 1-2, but we recovered. We're pitching and hitting pretty well, nothing too great, but it's a start."

The team began the season with a double header on April 10 against Marion, and fell to the opposition 3-5. They followed up that loss with a win over Marion, with Jared Baker pitching a 1 hitter and striking out 9. This was followed by a loss to Blackford, and three consecutive wins over Bishop Dwenger, Manchester, and Concordia, respectively. Unfortunately, the team fell to Blackhawk Christian, 6-8, on April 20. Last Thursday, the team was engaged in a game against Huntington North, winning 4-2, when the game was called due to rain. The Spartans lost two tough games to Northrop during a doubleheader on Saturday. If it wasn't for the two back-to-back losses against highly ranked Northrop, the team would currently have a winning record.

"I think if we play well we can go far in the postseason," Copley said. "Our toughest challenge will be to not make mental errors."

The team is led by the play of its seniors, Josh Schwartz and Ryan Kepke. Ben Kitto (11) has also helped the team achieve its 4-7 start. All three players are pitchers and first baseman. With the help of these individuals, the team hopes to make a strong postseason run. Last year, the team fell in the first round of sectionals. In addition to making an admirable post-season run, the team has hopes of defeating a few old rivals this season.

"Northrop and Snider are tough teams that we'd like to beat, but we really want to beat Carroll. They're a NHC foe." Copley said.

One of the highlights of the team's year was the comeback win over Manchester. Homestead's squad overcame a six run deficit to tie the game, faltered on defense, but buckled down and overcame a second deficit in order to win the game 13-12.

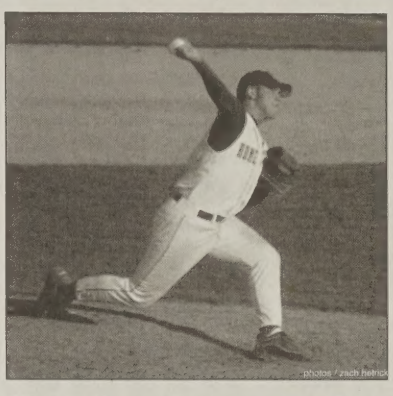
"Playing aggressively is key to some of our victories." Copley said. "Once we get past second base we're always looking to score."

The team always looks for support from their fellow Homestead students. Games are four dollars, or an individual can present his or her activity pass to gain admittance. Games are exciting and intense experiences.

"Everyone should come out and see a home game or two." Copley said. "We appreciate the support."

As the team approaches the middle of their season, the players are starting to come into their own. But the squad still has difficulties to overcome in order to round out a successful season.

"We just need to play seven good innings of baseball." Copley said.



photos / zach fedrick

Rugby teams improve over time

jessica bird
writer

Overcoming defeat is something many teams struggle with. In the sports world, the ability to learn from mistakes is key. The boys on the Homestead Blue's Brothers Rugby team have started to learn and apply this. After suffering four straight losses, the team, coached by Gabe Lopez and Randy Harding, is coming together.

The reason some people do not hear much about rugby is because those people do not understand the game. The object of the game is to score more points than the opposing team, by getting the ball into the opposing half of the field, and touching it down behind the goal line, or by kicking it through the opposing team's goalposts.

In rugby, there are four ways to score: a "try", four points; Conversions, two points; Penalties, two points; Drop Goals, one point.

A try is scored when the ball is touched onto the ground beyond the opponents goal line. The scoring player must be holding the ball with either hands or harms when the ball hits the ground.

A penalty try can be awarded if the referee decides that a player who was fouled was certain to score a try, and was prevented from doing so by the foul.

Every try is followed by a "kick at goal", also known as converting the try. The kick is taken from where the ball touched the ground on the original try. The ball is then kicked between the uprights on the goal.

When teams receive a chance to take a penalty kick, they can either kick the ball from the ground, or they can kick it into touch.

The team started off roughly, especially against Penn.

"Penn was our hardest team to beat," Jeff Salamone. Plus, their team has about 60 players, while ours doesn't have that much."

Physical strength is a big part of rugby. The game is a high contact game in which the players where no protective pads. Fortunately, only the player with the ball may be tackled.

While Homestead's team currently has a 1-4 record, the team is beginning to work together and win. On Wednesday, April 21, the boys beat Caroll 37-3.

"We worked well as a team and had fun," Tim Tolentino (12) said.

On Saturday, April 24, the boys were supposed to play Warren Central. However, the game was cancelled because the other team did not have enough players to play.

Another aspect of winning is what goes on at practice. The boys know what they need to practice on to have a successful execution.

"We need to work on controlling position of ball in the ruck," Salomone said.

With the season winding down, the boys plan to improve and end the season well.

jessica bird
writer

The rugby team, mostly consisting of rookies, is said to be the best rugby team Puma has had since the team started, four years ago. There are 11 rookies, and nine returning players.

"The rookies have come along real well," Laura Raiman (11) said.

Puma, the sponsors of the team, welcome girls from not only Homestead, but from other schools in the area to be on the team. The team currently has two players from Bishop Dwenger High School, and one player from Canterbury High School. The rest of the team consists of Homestead students.

Jessica Bruce (10), has skills in soccer, so the job of kicking the ball is something she is already good at. Kickoff is taken from the center spot, in the middle of the field, or "pitch". The ball must be kicked to the opponent's 10 meter line, or farther. After the kick, the side with possession of the ball must get the ball down to the opposing goal line by running, passing sideways or backwards, or kicking the ball.

Coach Leslie Ecklor and Coach Shark have coached their Puma team to a current record of 3-3.

"Our record is fair this season," Ecklor said. "It started out very strong, but with players involved in other activities, not as many players came to practice. [However], we have tremendous talent with the freshman this year."

Tough teams the girls have previously played against include Warsaw and Penn.

"Warsaw had a quick back line and some big girls," Raiman said. Puma played Warsaw on April 20, and the score was 17-0.

The girls played Penn on Sunday, April 25. Penn, the defending state champs, proved to be the most challenging team the Puma girls have come up against. Despite a good effort, Puma lost 10-0 against Penn

"They're a really good team," Ashley Taylor (10) said. "They are a school team so there are a lot of them."

To go up against tough teams like Warsaw and Penn, the girls will need to be honing certain skills during team practices.

"We need to focus on the strength of our pack," Taylor said. A "pack" consists of eight of the biggest and strongest players on the team.

"[We want to] improve our over all game and play as a team," Raiman said. "We play very good now, team work, and the level of team support has really come along."

Points are awarded for every game, and out of the 26 teams in the area, the teams with the most points will be eligible to qualify for the four round, single elimination state tournament. Ecklor is convinced that the girls from Puma will end up being contenders.

Rules of the Game

Object of the game: score more points than the opposing team by getting the ball into the opposing half of the field, and touching it down behind the goal line, or by kicking it through the opposing team's goalposts.

Scoring:

Try: (four points) scored when the ball is carried across the opponent's goal line.

Conversions, and Drop Goals: two points.

Penalty points: (two points): awarded when the referee determines that a player was certain to score a goal before being fouled.

photo / will vragovic

Mark Vragovic (12) tackles an opponent in a rugby game. The boys currently have a 1-4 record, with Penn being their toughest opponent thus far.

(dĭs′ -pā′shən)
n. An amusement; diversion

the Spartana
DISSIPATION

3b
May 7, 2004

Summer is almost here and so is the search for a summer job. Will the search be quick and painless or painfully endless?

THE REVOLUTION

evan childers
writer

Summer is almost here. It seems so close I can almost feel it. Every hour brings us that much closer to a carefree world full of long lazy days and cool summer nights. Just imagine all of the things we'll be doing in under a month. Driving around, eating-out, going to movies, etc. It will be glorious.

Then I remember the sad truth; doing stuff usually requires money. And I'm broke. Unfortunately, being broke and wanting to spend money causes conflicts.

So as I enter the summer, I undertake another mission: find a job.

Jobs, as a rule, aren't fun, but this summer I'm determined to have as much fun as possible. So, the first jobs I will be looking for are fun jobs. After brainstorming for a few minutes, I realize there is nothing I would be paid for that could be considered "fun" by any stretch of the imagination.

The search continues.

After another few minutes of contemplation, I figure I'll settle for anything that won't cause me to suffer a nervous breakdown.

"You wanted a large coke, not a medium coke? I'll give you a large coke, right in your lousy face you..."

I want to avoid ever having a conversation like that, so I take a few mental notes: get money without suffering a nervous breakdown. Now I'm ready to go searching for jobs.

With this plan of action, I get in my car and drive. I have less than a quarter tank of gas, and soon enough the "e" light will flick on, warning me of imminent immobility. I think quickly, and turn into Chestnut Hills Golf Course. Recently, rumors have spread of job openings, so I go to investigate.

As I walk through the double doors, I realize I'm fighting the clock. Out there, hundreds of other high school students are fighting the same war I'm fighting. They are out there trying to get money, so they can do stuff this summer. They're trying to get money, and they're taking up my job opportunities. How selfish! On another note, I'm also fighting the gas gauge, which refuses to recognize the fact that there must be more gas in the tank somewhere; it's just not looking hard enough.

I approach the counter. With an air of casual indifference, I obtain the job application. Phase One is complete. Deftly, I fill it out, betraying no apprehension or fear. With a steely gaze, I hand the application back to the clerk. Phase Two: complete. Then I realize a mistake:

"Um, I forgot to put my social security number on there."

"That's okay we'll only need it if we call you." The man replies indifferently.

I trudge out of the club in low spirits. It didn't sound as if the Country Club needed me all that much. I take off and drive in circles around the county. I argue with myself about applying at McDonalds', then argue with myself about applying at Scott's, then I'm nearly out of gas. Grumbling, I put 2.89 worth of gasoline in my tank, using the change in my cup holder, and go home. Dead broke, I go to sleep, wondering if the fine gentlemen at Chestnut Hills Country Club will ever call.

Two weeks pass. There is still no phone call from the Country Club. Unfortunately, a high school student is only too familiar with being ignored by potential employers. If I were to call them instead, I can only imagine the conversation that would ensue.

"Hello, I'm Evan Childers, I filled out a job application about two weeks ago, and I'm wondering if I could find out about getting some work."

"I'm sorry, who are you?"

"Evan Childers."

"And what do you want?"

"A job."

"I see. Well, why don't you come fill out an application?"

"I already did that."

"No you didn't, or you would've heard us say that we will call you. Obviously you never heard us say that, or you wouldn't be calling."

"Oh I see... Well is there any way I can find out about getting a job?"

"Come in and fill out an application."

"What then?"

"We'll call you."

Click.

So I'm back to stage one, brainstorming. I'm back to thinking of jobs that are slightly bearable. I'm back to searching all possible crevices in my car where spare change could be hiding. Back to staring at the phone idly, waiting for a call that won't come.

Oh well.

I contemplate applying at McDonald's, which is kind of like contemplating suicide. I mean, I don't even like going in there to get food.

Maybe summer won't be so bad without money. There's always all the fun exciting stuff you can do for free, like sleeping and asking for rides from other people. Oh, and waiting around. That never costs anything. Ironically, all of this will probably lead to a nervous breakdown caused by boredom.

I'm trapped.

So the search continues.

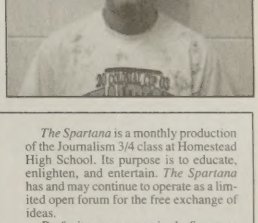
Bleacher Bum

Our resident sports expert relays the baseball season that is getting into full swing

tim clark
writer

Ahh, the smell of the freshly cut infield grass. The sound of wood bats cracking baseballs out of the park. Baseball season has once again grasped us in a spring, breeze-like way. It seems to be America's past-time that brings the beginning of the new season. Also dragging out to hibernation baseball-crazed fans out of their caves. It's baseball season once again, and it's time to drag the old mitt out of the closet and hit the road for a few games. Baseball season beings a great mix of fun entertainment, that's great for the kids, especially for pacifist people. But if your like that, don't go to Atlanta or Philadelphia *wink wink*. Ahh yes, time to grab a mitt, ball, and bat and traipse around the yard hitting balls into peoples windows, smacking siblings with wild pitches, and just all-out ,knocking a ball 3 blocks away. Yes, this brings to life the history of the movie, "Sandlot", in which a group of neighborhood boys play in an old dirt dump, playing a game they love, with a passion. Yes, this is baseball season. Baseball brings all sorts of people out. It appeals to the most age groups, all the way from senior citizens in wheelchairs, to screaming three year olds, driving their baseball-hungry parents insane. Baseball takes the time to show you America, and it's beloved game. Taking in a game at one of a few legendary ball-parks left on this earth is an experience in itself. Whether going to glorious Wrigley Field, my pride and joy of a park, or taking in a game historic Fenway Park. And even if you can't make it out to one of those glorious shrines of fields, you can always go to some other park in the country. Close ones for instance: Detroit, Chicago, St. Louis, Cincinnati. All these and more across the country give baseball fans alike their solace. And if you can't drive far enough for these games, why don't you just try a good 'ole fashioned Midwest League game, and watch those young Wizards take on some of the Midwest's finest "A" baseball teams. Heck, you might even see a future superstar that you won't have heard of until they are up in the majors. For instance, Tori Hunter or Sean Burroughs, whom are all up in the 'Majors. If baseball teaches us anything, it guarantees that no matter the type of baseball fan, whether die-hard or casual, your can have a great time at the 'ole ball game. And for those Major League fans, who knows what this year could hold in store. Could we see another rise of the beloved Cubbies to the World Series, only to be crashed by the curse once again? Or could it be the Red Sox who finally break the curse. It might just be the boring Yankees once again, but hopefully not! There are many surprises this year just waiting to be unraveled in this years season. Who knows, we might see a record broken this year of great significance. This might be a year of home runs and it might not. Either way this years baseball season will be great one like many others. So get ready, get set, and let's play ball! It's Baseball season; ain't it grand?

Tim Clark is a sophomore and is a writer. The views and opinions expressed in this editorial do not necessarily represent those of the Spartana *or of its staff.*



The Pledge of Allegiance poses problem

Do students have the right to sit during the pledge of allegiance?

logan braman
designer

I love the United States of America. I love the life I live here. I love the people I know here. I love the fact that there is opportunity around every corner here. Most of all, I love that I am free. I have certain rights just like every other citizen in this great country. Unfortunately my unalienable rights were taken away from me earlier this semester. It was a situation that I won't soon forget.

Here's the scene: I'm in homeroom on a Friday morning getting ready to receive my report card. The T.V. channel is changed to seven, and the announcer asks the school to "please stand for the pledge." "Just like any normal Friday," I think as I sit there. As is my habit, I continue to sit during the pledge. This is when the trouble starts.

"Stand up!" my homeroom teacher demands. "Excuse me?" I reply. "I said stand up," he returns. I attempt to tell him that I usually don't stand for the pledge, but I am interrupted by yet another "Stand up!" This is when I get mad. "No," I reply calmly "I don't have to stand for the pledge." Now it's his turn to ask me to repeat myself. "I said no. I have the right to sit if I choose," I tell him. He tells me to get out in the hall. "What? Are you serious?" I can't believe my ears. He had to tell me twice, but eventually I vacated the premises.

I left feeling hurt and denied. I had just been denied one the most basic rights a U.S. citizen has: the right to speak freely. In my case, my actions were speaking for me. I choose to show my "allegiance" to my country in other ways. Other ways such as being an active member of the economy, volunteering my time for state programs to give the public information (this article you're reading is a great example), and doing everything I can to make the United States successful. I don't (and can't) buy into the idea that by mindlessly standing and reciting a short pledge I am showing any sort of allegiance. I also don't have any grand schemes to overthrow the government or anything like that. I simply don't show my allegiance by reciting a pledge.

I understand why my homeroom teacher was upset, and I also understand why I was told to leave. My homeroom teacher is obviously a very patriotic (possibly very blindly patriotic) person who felt that I was being unpatriotic by not standing. I understand that he asked me to leave because I refused his attempts to force me to stand. What I don't understand is how this same patriotic person can feel that when I enter his classroom, my rights are left at the door. Does he have the right to deny me my rights? He certainly does not. I was not infringing on his rights by not standing for the pledge. I was simply exercising my right to free speech. Apparently he was exercising his supposed right to deny me of my rights.

Immediately following this incident, I was pretty much livid. I couldn't believe that I had been violated in such an extreme way. Now that I have had time to consider the situation, I realize that it was most likely a mistake on both parts. I should have articulated my reasoning for sitting before simply refusing. The teacher should have been aware of what he was doing, but it is quite possible that he was blinded by his patriotism. Obviously, he loves his country just as much as I do and chooses to show it in a different way. That's the great thing about the United States; everyone is allowed to show the love they have for their country however they choose.

What I've learned from this situation is simple: I have rights and so does everyone else. Sometimes they will be violated by other people. I can only hope that the future brings awareness to every citizen in the United States. Awareness that we all have rights.

Logan Braman is a junior and a designer. The views and opinions expressed in this editorial do not necessarily represent those of the Spartana *or of its staff.*

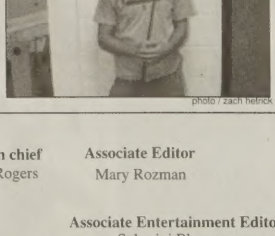


photo / zach hetrick

The Editorial Review

Fine Arts week took place the week of April 26. All students attended a convocation on Tuesday or Wednesday morning in the gymnasium. The orchestra, jazz band, Class Royale, Elite, Junior Varsity Dance Team, Varsity Dance Team, and the winter guard all performed. A gallery was set up in the community room throughout the week displaying paintings, ceramics, jewelry, photography, and film and video projects. Those who participated in the Fine Arts week should be applauded. Athletic teams and athletes are frequently praised. Students who spend their time and effort in the arts should be recognized and rewarded for their talent as well.

Editorial Board Vote: 6 For, 0 Against

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The Spartana is a monthly production of the Journalism 3/4 class at Homestead High School. Its purpose is to educate, enlighten, and entertain. *The Spartana* has and may continue to operate as a limited open forum for the free exchange of ideas.

Profanity may appear in *the Spartana* with the approval of the adviser, but only in cases of direct quotations or if it is necessary for clarity. Material which is libelous or obscene and could cause substantial and material disruption, as defined by the Supreme Court, will not be printed.

Public input will be accepted in the form of letters to the editor. Letters must follow standards concerning liable or obscenity. Those which could cause substantial and material disruption, as defined by the Supreme Court, will not be printed.

Staff members of *the Spartana* support the First Amendment rights and oppose censorship in any form. The content of the paper is determined by the student staff. In cases of potentially controversial material the editorial board will meet to decide the content of the newspaper. Students will be assisted by the adviser in areas of professional ethics and legalities.

the Spartana EMINENCE

(em´ə-n əs) n. a person of high station or great achievements

Steadfast devotion

photos/ zach hetrick

Girls track continues winning ways during regular season

Strong start for the boys track team, looking to conference meet next week

photos/ zach hetrick

tyler keena
writer

With conference and postseason meets rapidly approaching, the girls' track team has met every challenge in their path and have set the pace for a strong and successful season.

The Spartans are undefeated after their dual meets and three-team meets this season, the first of which was a dual meet versus Huntington North. The team managed to pull off a surprising upset in their second meet of the season by defeating Huntington North and Northrop (ranked number one in state) in a three-team meet. The Spartans followed the upset victory with two more wins over Columbia City in a dual meet as well as Bellmont and East Noble in a three-team meet.

The girls' track team continued their success with a dominating victory in a three-team meet against conference rivals DeKalb and Carroll. All three relays finished in first place, with the 3200 meter relay team setting a school and meet record with a 9:23. Katie Vieth (9) finished first in 100 meter high hurdles and the pole vault. Hannah Weide helped the Spartans to victory with first place finishes in the 100 meter dash and 800 meter run and Jennifer Kopecky finished first in the discus and shot put.

The undefeated Spartans are now ranked eleventh in the state and hope to prove themselves for the rest of the season.

"We are a very good team and deep in several areas," Coach Sarah Wyss said. "Everyone has worked very hard over the last six or seven weeks to be where we are at this point in our season."

The team is hoping this hard work will pay off this May as conference and sectionals approach.

"We definitely want to win conference again this year and advance a lot of runners through sectionals and hopefully all the way to the state meet," Joy Nordin (10) said.

The conference meet is scheduled for May 11 at East Noble

caitlin myers
writer

The Boys' Track Team is off to a strong start on their season, winning five out of their first six meets. Their initial victories put them in prime position to finish the season with a solid record.

The second to last meet that the boys competed in was the Northside Relays, which took place Saturday, April 17th. Among the many teams that were there, they were beat by East Noble, which was their first loss of the season.

"At the Northside Relays we scored little points in field events. We were missing one of our key sprinters and we won no distance events," Ben Townsend (10) said. "All these contributed to our loss on Tuesday."

Although the team did not win at the Northside Relays, there were personal records achieved. Steve Clark (10) had a personal record when he ran the 1600R in a time of 4:37. Right behind him was Townsend with a time of 4:45.

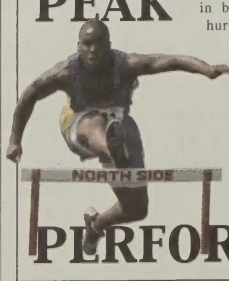
The most recent meet that the Spartans competed in was against Carroll and DeKalb, which was successfully won by Homestead with a score of 70, 53 (Carroll), and 44 (DeKalb).The Spartans won the 3200m relay and the 400m relay. Tim Reid (11) took first place in the 110m high hurdles and the 300m intermediate hurdles. Helping the Spartans with their victory was Ken Perkins (10) who won the 100m dash. The team also won the 800m, 200m, and the 3200m run.

"The team is doing good this season," Clark said, "I think we can win conference again this year."

photos/ zach hetrick

photos/ zach hetrick

PEAK PERFORMER



Reid remains undefeated in both the 110 meter hurdles and 300 meter hurdles in dual and tri meets. His best time of 39.9 seconds in the 300 hurdles is .1 second from tying a school record, and he is also on the 4x100 meter relay team that currently holds the school record.

Top Left: Ashley Burkhart (10), Bliss Cook (11), and Julie Krouse (11) pace eachother in the 800m run against Columbia City. Top Middle: Continuing a year-long tradition, Kennith Perkins (10) prays before the 4X100m relay at the North Side Relays, in which Homestead took 3rd. Top Right: Steve Clark (10) drafts off the others runners in the North Side mile run. Middle Left: Hunter Hall (9) clears a personal best 12'6" in the pole vault. Middle Right: Tim Reid clears a hurdle in his heat of the 300m hurdles. Bottom Left: Hannah Weide (11) sprints the last 20 meters of the 4X400 meter relay. Bottom Right: Sarah Schepper (11) rounds the second turn on her leg of the 4X400 relay.

E the Spartana
ENTERTAINMENT
May 7, 2004 Contact the Entertainment Editor at theSpartana@hotmail.com

FAST FEET

larry buchanan
designer

To most people "D", "D", and "R" are just letters, but to Scott Underwood (11), these letters represent a way of life. "D", "D", and "R" stand for Dance Dance Revolution, the dance game that is popular among many high school students. Underwood has been playing DDR since January of 2003.

"I just saw it [DDR] advertised and even though I thought it was really stupid at first, I decided to try it out," Underwood said. "Ever since, I've been hooked."

DDR has different levels of difficulty and different "grades" that can be earned. The levels of difficulty range from beginner's mode to heavy mode (the most difficult). The grades that can be earned range from "E" to "AAA" (lowest to highest: E, D, C, B, A, AA, AAA). To receive a "AA" grade on a song, a player has to get 93.1% of all the steps in the song perfect. A "AAA" rating means that a player gets every step perfect.

"When I saw the songs on heavy mode, I never thought I would be able to pass them," Underwood said. "Now I AA them."

For a little over a year he has been practicing in arcades to become better and better. Underwood has set high expectations for himself. He rates his ability as "above average" with only a little over a year experience.

"There are people I know who have been playing for three to four years and can't do half of the stuff I do," Underwood said. "I played a lot and have high expectations. I wanted to be good; I just did not think I ever would [be good]. That is probably what pushed me."

Anywhere there is a DDR machine, tournaments are being held. Everyone crowds around the machine, and the tournament is set up in an eliminations style bracket. People with the highest scores move on to the next round until the champion is crowned. These tournaments are held every once in awhile.

There are also state rankings for DDR players, controlled by a website forum, IndyDDR.

"IndyDDR is an informal community of people who play Dance Dance Revolution in Indianapolis and throughout the state of Indiana," according to IndyDDR.com. "It is not a team. Think of it as a social group connected by the common thread of DDR."

IndyDDR is where people who play DDR can post their best scores and compare themselves to other players around the state. This is how many DDR competitors determine their "state rank."

Compared to the rest of the IndyDDR community, Underwood places himself at fourth or fifth among people registered on IndyDDR.

"Judging off of my records and scores, I'm number 1 in Fort Wayne," Underwood said. "But Merk [Michael Merkler (12)] from Homestead is really good too."

In addition to playing DDR with their feet, players can also play DDR with their hands. Underwood is also good, if not better, at this form of the dance game. The actual program is not called DDR, it is called Stepmania and you play it on your computer (using the arrow keys as your dance "pad").

"It is basically just a DDR simulation for computer, and the draw to it is that anybody can make stepfiles, like you can program your own arrow patterns and such, to any song," Underwood said. "So you can make insanely difficult stuff that's really fun to play that would be impossible on your feet."

Underwood has been exploring this type of "DDR" for about five months now. He plays this form of DDR about every day on his computer. When it comes to which he is better at, he says he is better at Stepmania, when compared to DDR.

"They're both incredibly different," he said. "Using my fingers in Stepmania is really easy to me, I can pretty much master everything [stepfile]. On my feet, it is so hard to perfect everything because there's so much energy and timing involved. But I'd say feet is more fun, and the challenge is still there."

Underwood says that anyone is able to become good at DDR. As with everything else in life, all it takes is practice.

"Everyone usually thinks the game looks really dumb until you try it, and then it is really addictive," Underwood said. "If you are just getting into it and want to get better, just keep practicing, don't always feel the need to do the hardest stuff, and practice on your timing on the easier stuff. And until I AA everything in the game I don't think I will ever stop."

photo illustration/zach hetrick and josh zurawski

Scott Underwood (11) ranks himself among other DDR players at fourth in the state. Underwood also plays a DDR simulation with his fingers.

photo / meg williams

Scott Underwood (11) and Michael Merkler (12) play DDR at Tokens 'n' Tickets. There are many places around the area where one can play DDR, such as Putt-Putt Golf 'n' Games, Lazer X, and Wayne Recreation. DDR is becoming popular in the United States.

DDR gains popularity

Skill, footwork and timing make up the newest craze among high school students, Dance Dance Revolution

ashley butler
writer

Dance Dance Revolution, an arcade game turned video game, is changing the way the world views gaming.

Developed in Japan in the late 1900s, Konami's latest creation is inspiring gamers to get on their feet for a five to six minute mini-workout.

The basic principle of the game is to be as accurate as possible in hitting a series of buttons on the simulated "dance floor," while trying to keep the beat of a song playing in the background. To begin, a player chooses a song from a sizable list, as well as deciding a difficulty level.

Footwork patterns are shown as guidelines on the screen, and players receive points for their accuracy in hitting the footwork patterns at the specified times. As the game raises its difficulty level, the footwork patterns get both more rapid and more complicated.

Though the arcade game can be played solo, many players prefer to battle one another in the two-player version of the game.

DDR has become so popular that there are many organizations for players to join as well as competitions around the state and nation for players to participate in.

In general, there are two different types of tournaments for avid DDR players.

"There are two common formats for tournaments," Tyler Churchward (9) said. "One is freestyle, in which you actually dance while playing, which is judged by creativity, originality, etc., and the other is a competition for the highest score."

The freestyle category in DDR competitions puts no limitations on what players can do. Many advanced arcade players memorize the footwork patterns of a specific song, enabling them to even complete the song without looking at the screen. Other tricks include spins, dancing backwards, and switching right and left feet.

I played at the arcade a few times and decided to buy the game and mat for PS2 in January, and I've been hooked ever since.

-Tyler Churchward (9)

These tournaments take place all over the state and many are open to anyone; there are many DDR clubs that sponsor both public and private competitions.

Along with public tournaments, Konami's innovations have made it possible for players to play at home with their Playstation 2 and Xbox versions of the game. DDRMax2 for Playstation 2, and DDR Ultramix for Xbox come with home mats and are available for purchase in many video game stores in Fort Wayne.

"I played at the arcade a few times and decided to buy the game and mat for PS2 in January, and I've been hooked ever since," Churchward said.

With the ongoing video game craze, DDR is now available, through an internet connection, to play online.

"I had DDRMax2 for PS2, but I got an Xbox so now I play DDR Ultramix," Churchward said. "I can also play DDR on Xbox live with people around the world."

Dance Dance Revolution is a game that is not only fun for the player; it is also entertaining for spectators. Many people who do not feel that they have the talent or will to play the game get enjoyment from watching other people try.

Locally, there are at least four places with DDR arcade machines. Putt Putt Golf 'N Games, Tokens 'N' Tickets, Wayne Recreation Center, and Laser-X all offer Dance Dance Revolution for a minimal price.

Dance Dance Revolution's popularity has recently dispelled many stereotypes concerning video game players.

"A lot of people that I know have a lot of fun playing DDR," Meg Williams (11) said. "Once people try it, they really enjoy playing."

People who play DDR have a real passion for what they do, and are confident that DDR's popularity will continue to grow.

"I recently became interested in DDR through my boy friend Scotty [Underwood]," Williams (11) said. "The first time I tried DDR with Scott I thought it was really hard and didn't do too well, but with practice I will grow to love DDR."

2c
May 7, 2004

the Spartana
EXHORTATIVE

(ig-zor t -tiv) adj. intending to encourage, incite, or advise

Spartan Briefs

Mean Girls

A teenage girl, Cady (Lindsay Lohan), who has been away on a safari with her parents, arrives at a new high school in Illinois. There, she is accepted into a clique of girlfriends. When she attracts the interest of the ex-boyfriend of one on her new friends, the girls in the group get nasty, doing everything in their power to to be mean to Cady. Soon Cady finds herself using the same tactics against her new girlfriends to get revenge. This movie is rated PG-13 for sexual content, language and teenage partying. This film hit theaters on April 30.

Envy

When Jack Black's character becomes rich from selling an invention, the two lifelong friends' bind starts to break as Ben Stiller's character goes crazy with envy. This movie is a comedy, and is rated PG-13 for language and sexual/crude humor. This film came to theaters on April 30.

Godsend

After their young son, Adam, is killed in a tragic accident, a couple approaches an expert in stem cell research about bringing him back to life through an experimental cloning and regeneration process. But when Adam comes back to life, he's...different. This movie is a horror flick, science fiction and thriller. It is rated PG-13 for violence, sexuality and some thematic material. This film was released nationwide in theaters on April 30.

Laws of Attraction

Two New York divorce attorneys who usually compete with each other end up in a relationship. As they get married, they must deal with the issues that often drive their own clients to come to divorce. This movie is a comedy/romance and is rated PG-13 for sexual content and language. This film hit theaters on April 30.

Aerosmith

The rock group Aerosmith will be coming to Evansville, Indiana on Monday, May 10, to perform at Roberts Stadium. This concert will be at 7:30 p.m. and there is a ticket limit of eight sold to each party. Tickets for the floor level cost $57.50, tickets for the upper level cost from $37.50-$57.50, and tickets for the lower level cost $57.50. Tickets are on sale now at ticketmaster.com.

Rigoletto

The Rigoletto opera will be coming to Indianapolis to perform at Clowes Memorial Hall at 8:00 p.m. tonight. Prices for tickets are $20-$69 for terrace seating and $20-$69 for box seating. Tickets are on sale now at ticketmaster.com.

Breakin' all the Rules

When a guy is dumped by his girlfriend prior to their wedding, he authors a novel about breaking up. The novel becomes a best-seller, making the protagonist a guru on breaking up and maintaining relationships. This movie follows the story of the guru as he attempts to offer advice to his friends about their relationships. *Breakin' all the Rules* stars Jamie Foxx and will be released on May 14. The movie is rated PG-13 for sexual humor.

Troy

When the Prince of Troy steals the wife of the King of Sparta, the Spartans launch an attack on the city of Troy. The movie's plot is set in 1193 B.C. 'Troy' will be released on May 14. The movie is rated R for violence. 'Troy' stars Brad Pitt, Eric Bana, and Orlando Bloom.

Shrek 2

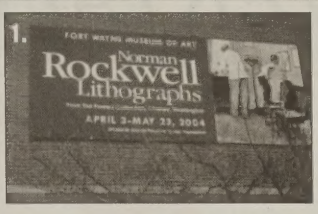
A sequel to the original, "Shrek 2" focuses on the story of Shrek and Fiona after they get married and return to the swamp. The audience gets the opportunity to meet Prince Charming and the Fairy Godmother. Distributed by DreamWorks Pictures and directed by Conrad Vernon, "Shrek 2" stars Eddie Murphy and Mike Meyers. The movie will be released on May 21 and is rated PG.

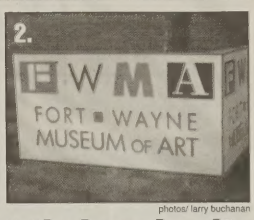
Kenny Chesney

Kenny Chesney will be performing on Thursday, May 22. The concert commences at 7:30 p.m. and will be held at the Roberts stadium in Evansville, Indiana. Tickets are on sale starting at $52.50. Tickets can be purchased at www.ticketmaster.com.

Calendar

4.30 "Mean Girls" is released in theaters nationwide 4.30 "Envy" is released in theaters nationwide 4.30 "Godsend" hits theaters 5.10 Aerosmith is in concert at Roberts stadium in Evansville, Indiana 5.14 "Breakin' all the rules" releases in theaters 5.14 "Troy" comes to theaters nationwide 5.22 Kenny Chesney is in concert in Evansville, Indiana





photos/ larry buchanan

Scholarly entertainment thrives in city

The Museum of Art, the Lincoln Museum add new exihibits to collection

larry buchanan
designer

Located in the heart of downtown Fort Wayne is the Fort Wayne Museum of Art (FWMA). Trying to appeal to individuals with various tastes, the museum offers a wide variety of art exhibits.

"[The art museum] tries to select pieces from the twentieth century to the present time," associate curator Sachi Yanari-Rizzo said.

Starting June 5 and running through July 25 is the art museum's Biennial exhibit. This exhibit features art submitted by visual artists who work within a 150 mile radius of Fort Wayne. Art critic Susan Snodgrass will initially select artists; the final pieces will be chosen by the FWMA.

The museum also features a "focus exhibit" in the upstairs gallery. The feature exhibit currently on display is titled "Water Trade" created by Sadashi Inuzuka. Inuzuka creates pieces that focus on nature. This exhibit provides an escape from typical painting and canvas art. Consisting of many ceramic installations, Inuzuka uses a variety of techniques, including audio and video, in the exhibit.

A photography exhibit is featured at the museum, as well. Titled "Preserving Place: Reflections of Indiana," this exhibit features "reflections of Indiana" through the eyes of photographers from across the state. The photos focus on the landscape and natural heritage of the state.

The most recent exhibit that the museum has taken in is a Norman Rockwell Lithograph exhibit. This new exhibit, titled "Norman Rockwell Lithographs: From the Powers Collection, Cheney, Washington," consists of fifty, signed Rockwell Lithographs. This set includes Rockwell's very first lithograph, titled "Spelling Bee."

"We [get] lots of traveling [shows] and Norman Rockwell is very well known among the community," Yanari-Rizzo said. "Our comments show that people would like to see Norman Rockwell and now they have that opportunity. It is great to be able to bring Norman Rockwell to Fort Wayne."

Norman Rockwell (1894-1978) was probably most famous for his work for the progressive news magazine, Saturday Evening Post, printed out of Philadelphia. All of the covers Rockwell did for the magazine, were oil-paintings. Rockwell did a total of 332 covers for the magazine.

"The Saturday Evening Post came out in a time when magazines were very popular," Yanari-Rizzo said. "They targeted the masses and millions of people saw his images. There were a lot of family scenes. In a time where there was a lot going on [Rockwell's] images were very comforting."

Also featured in the exhibit are his famous illustrations for Mark Twain's classic novels The Adventures of Tom Sawyer and The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn.

To create the lithograph collection, Rockwell had to take the original oil-painting and then draw the image again onto a smooth-grained limestone surface, with a grease pencil or crayon. Each color that is used requires another stone. Lithographing is a very tedious process which is why only 200 of Rockwell's paintings were lithographed. Each one is signed and numbered. Fifty lithographs are featured in one of the largest collections of Rockwell lithographs.

suhasini bhargava
associate entertainment editor

Comprising a permanent exhibit about former president Abraham Lincoln, and featuring temporary exhibits, special programs, and exhibitions, the Lincoln Museum functions as a historical resource for local teenagers. Additionally, it serves as a deviation from standard weekend activities such as watching movies or visiting the mall by providing students with an opportunity to learn about the life and contributions of Abraham Lincoln.

Opened in 1931 by the Lincoln Historical Research Foundation in Fort Wayne, the Lincoln museum continues to provide education and entertainment to locals while purposing as a commemoration to Abraham Lincoln.

"The Lincoln Museum adds a richness to the community," museum employee Cindy Thies said. "It is the largest museum about Lincoln in the country."

The Lincoln Museum is located in downtown Fort Wayne on 200 East Berry Street; the museum is open on Tuesdays through Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. On Sundays, the museum opens at 1:00 p.m. and closes at its regular time. The museum remains closed on Memorial Day, the 4th of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, New Year's Day, and Easter. General admission for the museum is $3.99. School groups are charged $2.99, and a discount is offered to senior citizens and children under the age of 12.

Several students have experienced the Lincoln Museum in previous years through field trips taken during elementary school and middle school.

"I think it was back in elementary school [when I first visited the museum] and we just took a tour of it and watched a little movie about him," Nick Knoblauch (12) said.

The primary attraction at the Lincoln Museum is the permanent Lincoln exhibit. This exhibit features the United States during Lincoln's time period. A portion of the exhibit includes special displays about the Northern states, the Southern states, and the Western ones. Visitors can also learn about slavery and view numerous documents about slave trade. A second portion of the Lincoln exhibit focuses on Lincoln's political career; events from his political career include a debate with Stephen Douglas and the passage of the Kansas-Nebraska Act. In an exhibit dedicated to the Civil War, visitors can study military equipment, military strategies, the Emancipation Proclamation, and learn about Civil War battles including the Battle at Gettysburg. Other aspects of the permanent collection focus on Lincoln's assassination and the Lincoln family.

Throughout the year, the museum also houses temporary attractions. Currently, the museum is hosting a quilt exhibit called "United We Quilt, a Traveling Exhibit." This temporary exhibit captures the emotions of the attacks of September 11, 2001 through quilts made by members of the American Quilters Society. The museum staff incorporated quilts about the assassination of Abraham Lincoln into the exhibit started by the American Quilters Society. The quilting exhibit will be on display until June 20, 2004.

Evidently, the Lincoln museum provides an alternative for weekend activities for high school students with educational exhibits and seasonal displays about Abraham Lincoln.

"Our facility itself is extremely user friendly and inviting," Thies said. "[It is] a real jewel in the downtown area."

Fort Wayne Art Museum Details:

Hours:
Tuesday - Saturday 10am - 5pm
Sunday 12 Noon - 5pm

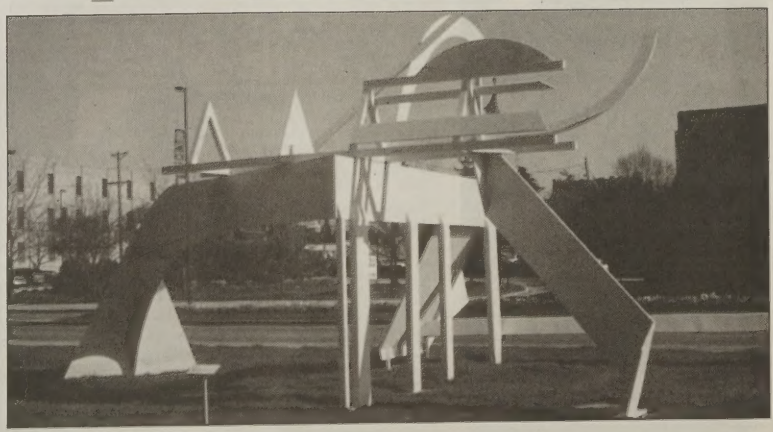
Admission:
Adults- $5.00
Family- $10.00
Students- $3.00

Address:
311 E. Main Street
Fort Wayne, Indiana 46802

"The young people that come in share the experiences with their parents and that's whys we have families come in on the weekends."
- Linda Dykhuizen, Information coordinator

Lincoln Museum Details:

Address:
200 East Berry St Fort Wayne, IN-46802
Phone Number:
(260)-455-3864



A sculpture outside the Fort Wayne Museum of art is pictured above. 1. A banner advertising the Norman Rockwell exhibit hangs outside the art museum. 2. Pictured is an outside view of the art museum.

(ə-mălgə-māt') v. to mix so as to make a unified whole; blend

the Spartana

AMALGAMATE

3c

May 7, 2004

Mediocre rating for local seafood grill

The 'Food Guys' visit a local seafood restaurant, leave unimpressed by food, service

josh zurawski
sports and views editor

zafar sayed
news editor

evan childers
writer

We have all previously driven past Annie's Gulf Shore Restaurant without giving the restaurant a second thought. But what is this mysterious place like? The rumors of "Annie's Gulf Shore Restaurant" permeated the town, and we decided to scope out the fishy situation.

The trio (Josh, Evan, and Zafar) journeyed to the Shoppes on Scott Road to experience Annie's' cuisine. The restaurant is located on the corner of Scott Road and 14 in Shoppes of Scott Road, and is just a hop, skip, and a jump away from many local neighborhoods.

As we entered the restaurant, we immediately noticed the bare walls, empty seats, and two elderly gentlemen setting up musical instruments. Service was prompt, but then again we were the only customers in the dining area. The bar seemed to be well populated, however. We were led to a quaint corner seat, situated precariously underneath a large television. We took in the atmosphere, or lack of for that matter.

When we sat down we noticed instantly the "band" playing in the background. The two gentlemen didn't play music, instead did a series of "check, check, check" 's and "check 1-2-3" 's. Instead of music, we got to listen to background "check" "the whole time.

The restaurant had a cajun/island/Hawaiian/we're not quite sure theme. The decorations were well done, but far too sparse. It appeared as if the restaurant had got off to the right foot with the decor, but did not finish the job. From our corner table, we had an excellent view of large rowboats, wooden oars, and an enormous hanging styrofoam dolphin. It appeared as if we were in a small cajun village, except that the village seemed to be situated in an industrial warehouse. Again, we appreciated the decor, but there was not enough of it to be satisfactory.

Check, Check, Check.

Our drink orders were promptly taken and brought out to the table. The waitress was kind and considerate, and immediately gave our orders to the chef. The staff made us feel like we were the only ones there, but then again we were the only ones there. Regardless, we were made to feel that our business was important to the restaurant.

Check 1-2-3, Check 1-2-3.

The corn bread that was brought out as an appetizer was delicious. It was freshly baked, and scrumptious.

Check, check, checking.

Our meals arrived shortly thereafter, and the presentation was excellent. All of the dishes (grilled Cajun catfish, Cajun crawfish, and New York Strip) looked very delicious. When we dug in, however, it was a different story. The Strip was cold, the crawfish had too much pasta and vegetables but not enough crawfish. The grilled catfish was only decent.

Check, check...finally some music.

The music started playing, and we paid and left. We paid $50 for three meals. The consensus is too much money for a mediocre experience.

Annie's Gulf Shores

photos / jack rozman

"The service was excellent, but we were the only ones there."

"It certainly had the potential to be a lively environment, but it didn't quite make it."

"The food, with a good presentation, but unimpressive for the prices."

Spring time romance shows up in the movies

kasey butcher
associate news editor

Spring is the season of love, or so I observed on my co-ed mission trip over Spring Break. Maybe it's sudden changes in the weather. Maybe its the reappearance of bare skin after a season of sweaters and coats. Maybe the idea of "Spring Flings" has just been fed to us year after year. Whatever the cause may be, Spring is the season known for romance.

Many great movies have been made by capitalizing on the human desire for love and romance. As long as I have been a lover of movies, I have been a lover of romantic movies. (Much to my father's dismay and my mother's influence.)

When it comes to my favorite early romance films, one person seems to star in all of them--Clark Gable. Mr. Gable was the "King of Hollywood" and dominated the movie industry from the 1920's up until World War II. Gable always played the tough man's man who somehow is a jerk and always get the girl anyway. He made 54 films over 30 years and is yet to be matched or replaced. One great romantic movie, Possessed (1931) features Gable opposite Joan Crawford. The story focuses on a young woman (Crawford) fed up with her small town life who heads to the city and becomes a tycoon's mistress. Gable and Crawford made eight movies together. They are my favorite romantic duo ever. They both have intense personalities and performances and when matched against each other the sparks and slaps fly. Also in the 30's, Gable starred in It Happened One Night (1934) with Claudette Colbert (the movie was the first to win all four major Oscars: Best Actor, Best Actor, Best Director, Best Picture) and Wife vs. Secretary (1936) with Myrna Loy, Jean Harlow, and James Stewart. Only in the 30's could there be such a legendary cast with out the movie turning into a battle for stardom and money. The film is such a guilty pleasure, as it tells the story of a secretary (Harlow) who has a close friendship with her boss (Gable) that only turns into something more after the wife (Loy) accuses

Gable of having an affair. It's the kind of movie that would have been trashy at the time of its release, but presently is just good for a laugh. 1939 brought one of the best movies ever--Gone With the Wind. Starring Gable and Vivian Leigh, this movie has it all; romance, drama, history. It's also the first color movie to win an Oscar.

Skipping forward to more recent years (because my section editor has limited my word count), modern romance movies are more most typically fall into one of three sub-genres: comedy, or the disenchanted mid-thirties girl finds true love-movie. My top picks for the latter are Bridget Jones's Diary starring Renee Zelwegger as the thirty-something with self-esteem issues who keeps a diary, and has to decide between her bad boy boss and the uptight family friend and The Truth About Cats and Dogs which stars Uma Thurman and Janeane Garofalo in a remake and update of Cyrano de Bergerac.

As wonderful as all the above films are, my favorite romantic movie is Breakfast at Tiffany's starring Audrey Hepburn and George Peppard. The charming movie is a classic and deals with love of self as well as love of another and does it well-no matter how much author Truman Capote hated it.

Copyright or Copyleft: ideas on copyrights

sam stahl
writer

Thomas Jefferson once said "that ideas should freely spread from one to another... seems to have been peculiarly and benevolently designed by nature." Today however, there is a tendency for individuals and businesses to classify such ideas as "intellectual properties." Recently, some businesses have successfully sought patents for businesses. For example, Netflix, an on-line DVD rental service recently patented the practice of renting DVDs through a website. Perhaps a few years ago it could have been called a creative idea, but such a patent is absurd. Owning this patent allows Netflix to sue competitors who conveniently happen to conduct their business in a similar way.

Practices like these are not limited to patents, however. Both copyrights and trademarks have seen their rules and regulations taken advantage of or exploited for their product.

Copyrights belong to the creator of the work, or whoever commissioned it. A copyright owner controls production and sale of copies, importation and exportation, to make derivative works, and to perform the work publicly. A copyright holder also has the right to sell a copyright.

Trademarks, in contrast, are the ownership of symbols, usually owned by a company.

Patents, trademarks, and copyrights are monopolies, granting sole rights of ownership to an individual or organization. The thinking behind this concept is that by granting a monopoly, innovation is encouraged through the value of the ownership. In laymen's terms, they allow artists and innovators to cash in on their creations.

However, these monopolies are not meant to be permanent. Jefferson estimated the needed lifetime for intellectual property (as patents, copyrights, and trademarks are called) was 19 years. Currently, copyrights can last as long as 95 years after the death of the creator. To say this is beyond the vision of Jefferson is not an exaggeration.

After the monopoly ends, the works are said to "fall into" the public domain. This means that the public effectively becomes a collective owner of the work, free to copy and perform it publicly. The existence of the public domain is meant to provide inspiration to artists and other creators.

One problem that lies in current copyright law is that all works are automatically copyrighted, no legal declaration is required. Also, rights to the work are assumed to be reserved, regardless of whether the creator is dead or otherwise unavailable. Strangely, this has fostered greed in the arts.

The tech revolution threatens many of the ideals behind "intellectual property." While I agree with the need for some type of ownership system, it is rapidly becoming obvious the current system needs to be revised. A growing movement of independent musicians, software programmers, and others on the forefront of innovation are beginning to demand reform of these laws. The movement is commonly known as the "Free Society" movement. Many have adopted "copyleft" strategies in opposing the restrictive rules of government-granted monopolies. Works that are "copylefted" are freely sent into the public domain for private use, and are only restrict commercial use. One author, for example, has released his book for free on the web, but has still published it as a traditional printed book just like any other. It will be interesting to see where this movement goes in the digital age.

4c
May 7, 2004
the Spartana
ADVANTAGEOUS
(ad văn-tā'j ə s)
adj. affording benefit or gain; useful

Leap of Faith

Homestead students head to the country of El Salvador during their Spring Break for Missions Trip with The Chapel, make a difference in native's lives

dillon kimmel
designer

Most students opt to go to Florida or the Caribbean for Spring Break to bask in the sun and enjoy themselves. This year, a group including Homestead students decided to go out of the ordinary. 27 students, including myself, traveled to the country of El Salvador on a Missions Trip with The Chapel.

Some of our goals for the trip included building benches for and repainting a church in the community of Tepecoyo. Also, in the small rural villages of Bambu and San Alfonso, we distributed food to families and did construction work on both churches. At the suburban church of Vista Hermosa, we had a pizza party for the community. Most importantly, though, we took every opportunity to evangelize to the people of El Salvador.

The 27 of us left from Chicago's O'Hare Airport at 6:00 A.M. on Friday, April 2. Temperature at takeoff was a whopping 37 degrees. Nearly seven hours later, at 12:31, the Delta Airlines plane touched down in San Salvador International, and we were greeted by a humid 90-something degree day.

We survived the commute to our hotel, despite having to maneuver through traffic which often took advantage of the highway's shoulder lanes. We met with S.O.L. at the hotel. S.O.L. (Sharing Our Love) is a group of missionaries headed by Chepe, an El Salvador native. S.O.L. coordinated the week for us. Chepe spoke very good English, as did many of the other S.O.L. members. They acted as translators for us all week.

Saturday, we headed to Vista Hermosa, where we put on a pizza party at the church. The night went very well. Kyle Brown (12), our group leader, spoke to a group of about 50 people about the Gospel. I also had the opportunity to speak at a nearby park.

We traveled to the small mountain community of Tepecoyo three times, painting the inside and outside of the church there and building them 26 benches. Before we arrived, the church had 30 plastic chairs to occupy their congregation of 200 plus. JT MacLeod (11) designed the benches. He did a great job, knocking down the price per bench to around $20. We also built the pastor a new pulpit and painted the inside of his house.

On Wednesday in the Pacific Ocean-bordering town of San Alfonso, temperatures soared upwards of 120 degrees. We distributed packaged food to families and Logan Gonot (9) spoke to the people in the food line about how their sin separates them from God.

Logan was pleased with the final result, saying, "It was really cool to speak and have people respond to me in a positive way." We also gave the church money to build a new fence. We reached dozens of people through a kid's program we held at a nearby pavilion.

In Bambu on Thursday, we gave the church money to fix their roof which had been broken into during a robbery attempt. We also distributed food again and had another children's program. Stephanie Hamil (11) delivered a fiery, effective speech in which nearly everyone in the crowd responded. By the time it was over, 50-60 people, mostly children, wanted to know more about God and requested bibles. It was one of our biggest success stories of the trip. That night we headed back to Tepecoyo one last time, and held a pizza party. More than 200 people showed up for the event. Before the pizza, Andy Parker (11) spoke to the crowd. Andy's message was accepted by dozens of people, capping off an unbelievable week.

The most moving part of the week came when the pastor of Tepecoyo, fighting back tears, expressed his appreciation for our hard work. He said words could not describe what we'd done for his church. He was thrilled that we not only fixed up his church, but we had done so much for the community he has devoted his life to. It didn't hit many of us the impact of our service until we saw the look of appreciation on the pastor's face. There were very few dry eyes by the time the goodbyes were finished.

Liz Kitto (9) recalled the night saying, "The saddest part of the trip was leaving. We'd grown so attached to some of the people in El Salvador and it was difficult to leave them."

At around 9:00 we headed back to the hotel one last time. Then on Friday afternoon at 1:05, and we left behind a beautiful place in which many of us had grown very attached to.

It didn't hit me until I finally climbed into bed Saturday morning at 4:30 the sheer magnitude of our work in El Salvador. Hundreds of people now have food that can feed a large family for a week. The churches we visited have been dramatically improved, and hundreds more have hope because of our evangelism. We really made a difference in El Salvador. Before I went on this trip, I was afraid it would be a drag, but now that I've experienced lending a helping hand, I know I wouldn't want to spend my Spring Break any other way.

¿Es bueno, no?

photo courtesy / Ben Townsend

photos by / dillon kimmel

Top Right: A young boy is playing near the edge of his family's property line in the mountain community of Tepecoyo. The students held kid's programs at the church in Tepecoyo, and many children received candy and played games. Far Left: Three children pray during Stephanie Hamil's (11) speech in the village of Bambu. Many students had the opportunity to speak to young people and adults about the Gospel. Top left, Ben Townsend (10) paints a heart on a young girl's face in San Alfonso. Many students painted children's faces as a part of the kid's program held in the village. Bottom Left, Vanessa Herman (9) and Lee Wagner (12) stain one of the many benches made for the church in Tepecoyo. 26 benches were made to hold the weekly congregation of more than 200.

the SPARTANA

Homestead High School 4310 Homestead Rd Fort Wayne, IN 46814

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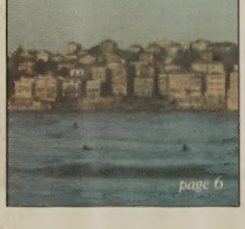

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A look back on 2003-2004

Taking the *next step*

photo illustration / zach herrick

kelly childs
writer

In the next few days, most freshmen and sophomores will be enjoying their first weekend of summer vacation, many juniors will be taking the SAT test, but seniors will be doing something completely different. They will be graduating.

For the students at Homestead High School, this brings about a multitude of emotions and feelings. Their high school years are over forever, and they are starting a new part of their life. Some will start working, others will attend school. Some will stay home while they adjust, others will move out right away. No matter what they are doing, it is certain that a different life awaits them beyond high school.

One of the biggest differences the seniors will face is living on their own. College campuses and dorm rooms will be the home for many students over the next few years.

"I'm a little bit apprehensive about it [college life] and about my roommate. It will also be hard to adjust to living in a small space because I have a lot of room right now," Amanda Brown (12) said.

Moving out of the house will be a new experience, but it is exciting for many students.

"I am excited to live on campus. It will be a new experience to live on my own. Getting my own food and doing laundry will be different, because my parents usually cater to my every need. I think it will be good for me to be independent," Ryan Koepke (12) said.

Living on their own may be quite an adjustment for students however, and they may find themselves surviving on pizza and Easy Mac until they get the hang of things.

Graduating from high school also means leaving behind memories and people the seniors will not soon forget.

"I think what I'll miss the most about high school is seeing everyone you know everyday," Jordan Rogers (12) said.

"I'll probably miss my high school friends the most and some of the different events that went on at school," Tim Bruce (12) said.

One of the hardest things the seniors will have to leave behind are their friends and their families.

"I'm definitely going to miss my friends and family... and my bed," Rachel Johnson (12) said.

The seniors are not just remorseful about leaving though. Graduating from high school also means a whole new life for them to start.

"I am ready to get out of high school and go to college. I'm ready to get out of the house," Johnson said.

Many of the students agree that moving out and starting a life of their own is exciting.

"I'm looking forward to getting out of the house and not always having to answer to someone," Brown said. "I am ready to meet new people and become more independent."

Brian Clark (12) poetically compared moving out of the house by saying "it is like a little bird leaving its nest for the first time in search for worms".

For some of the seniors at Homestead, they will be starting a new life in another state. Bruce is attending school in Canada, so he is moving far away from home. Other students will be attending schools in other regions of the country. Ashley Jones (12) is going to college in North Carolina.

"I am excited to get away and experience a different part of the country," Jones said.

Most students decide to stay a little closer to home and attend an in-state college.

"I think it's all right staying in state. There's going to be quite a few people I know at my school, and it will be a little bit easier staying close to home. College will not seem like such a big jump," Rogers explains.

Going to an in-state college does open the possibility of knowing people who are attending the same school.

"I will be on my own at college, but I have friends that are going there [Purdue], so I'll be hanging out with them," Johnson said.

Of course, not every student will know people at their college.

Brian Quigley (12) said, "I am kind of nervous because I lose my security blanket when I go off to college. Nobody I know is going to my college, but I'm hoping to make new friends and fit in well."

Graduating from high school starts a whole new part of the seniors lives.

"Graduating seals the deal. It is another step in my educational quest," Quigley said.

As their final days at Homestead approach, many seniors are beginning to feel anxious for the end and graduation

"I'm definitely anxious about the whole experience and nervous to enter the real world. I am a little sad to say goodbye to all of my friends, but I'm excited to move on to the next chapter of my life," Koepke said.

While leaving a school most have spent four years attending is a difficult task for some to do, moving on is the next step for the seniors at Homestead who will soon be leaving high school forever and starting a new life.

"High school has gone by really fast and it's weird that it's almost over, but I'm really excited to move on and start a new chapter of my life," Johnson said.

What Seniors need to know...

All students planning on participating in the graduation ceremony on June 5 need to attend rehearsals at the Coliseum from 10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Saturday morning.

Seniors need to be at the Coliseum and ready to line up for the ceremony by 6:15.

Proper clothing is required for the ceremony. This excludes jeans, shorts, and t-shirts.

Parking at the Memorial Coliseum, even for graduates, is three dollars per vehicle.

Top left to right: Homecoming King and Queen Shaun Fox (12) and Molly Laipple (12) pose during halftime in the Homecoming game last fall. During a meet this past season, Joe Colley (12) swims for the finish. Les Mis' drew large audiences with students such as Brian Quigley (12) acting in the play. The girls' Softball team huddles during a game this spring. Cross Country runner Sam Lee (10) focuses on the race during last fall's NHC conference meet. During the Spring Arts Week's Coffee House, bands including Kyle Gilpin's entertained guests. Taylor Kinzer (10) goes for the basket during this winter's basketball season Directly Above: For the seniors leaving school tomorrow, it will be the last time to pass through the doors as students of this school.

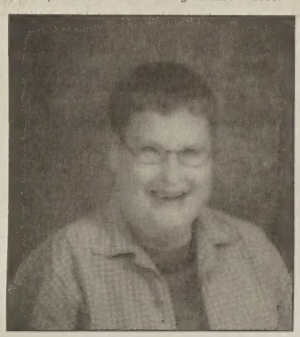
the Spartana
PITHY
(pith'e) adj. concisely meaningful

In Memory of Drew Williamson

Drew Eric Williamson, 19, passed away on May 2, 2004 with his family by his side. Drew Williamson was born on February 11, 1985. Williamson attended Homestead High School and was a student in the special needs classes. Williamson would have graduated with the class of 2005. Williamson was a caring individual who enjoyed singing, dancing, playing sports, playing cards, watching game shows, and bowling. Drew Williamson had won numerous awards and ribbons for his achievements in the standing broad jump, the fifty-meter dash, and the softball throw in the Special Olympics. Last year through a grant from Children's Wish Fund Williamson was able to visit one of his personnel heroes, Bob Barker, and attend Barker's game show, The Price is Right. Williamson had a lasting faith, and always had a positive outlook on life. Drew Williamson was an individual who touched many lives, and will be missed by many. The funeral services to celebrate Drew's life were held on Wednesday May 5

photo / tanya hack

Above: Drew Williamson celebrates his silver medal in the Special Olympics. Below: Drew's school photo. Drew would have graduated in 2005.



Congratulations to Ryan Adams, winner of the Spartana's "Take an Editor to Prom" essay contest

Sponsored by Applebee's at the Village at Coventry

Ryan was presented with a gift basket including $20 to Applebee's and two free movie tickets from Rave Motion Pictures. Thank's Ryan for your entry.

Making Precious Prom Memories

Among the preparations and plans for Prom, the small moments made the evening special.

photos / andrea murray

Above: Former Prom Queen and King, Megan Kaminski (12) and Ben Baenen (12) introduce the Prom Court. Below left: Andrea Lau (12) gets her make up done before the prom. Getting make up done was an easier alternative to doing it by oneself. Below right: Becky Eichen (11) gets her hair done by a stylist before Prom.

kasey butcher
associate news editor

Although a great deal of time, money, and energy is spent getting ready for Prom, it is often the unplanned and unexpected gestures and events of the evening that make the experience a treasured memory.

Prom preparations for many people, especially girls, involved many appointments and hours of time. Many female Prom attendees got their hair, nails, or makeup done professionally.

"I got my hair done and my nails." Jenn Stanley (11) said. "I did my own makeup."

For some people, however, the process was far less complicated.

"I just put on my tux and that was it," Andy Krafcheck (11) said.

Getting ready provided memorable moments for some students.

"[My date] wouldn't let me see her until she was all ready and it was a pain, but it was worth the wait," Mickey Mazock (11) said. "I got to her house before she got back from her hair appointment and I tried to surprise her by being ready before her."

The threat of scattered thunder storms on Prom day added the stressful possibility of hair or makeup getting ruined, but also provided opportunities for chivalry.

"Because it was raining that day, [my date] pulled around and backed right up to my garage so I wouldn't get wet," Stanley said. "He brought an umbrella and said that if it was too wet he'd carry me."

Other, simple actions or gestures helped make the evening especially memorable.

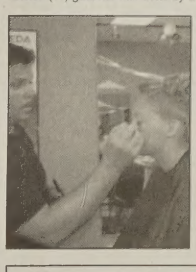
"[My date] opened my car door for me and he tried to pull my chair out for me, but I forgot and didn't let him," Krista Hopper (11) said.

The 2003-2004 Junior/Senior Prom was held on Saturday, May 22 in the Auxiliary Gym from 8:00 pm to midnight. The cost was eighteen dollars per person. The theme was "Some Kind of Wonderful" and upon leaving, students were presented with champagne flutes with small pamphlets put together by Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) containing Junior and Senior Superlatives, the Prom Court and Prom Committee.

"There were two things I really liked about Prom and one thing I didn't like," Kent Sa (12) said. "First, I really enjoyed the fact that I didn't have to pay for tickets. Second, the Student Government did a really good job decorating the Auxiliary Gym. It would have been a whole lot more magical if there had been a live band. Other than that, it was a really enjoyable evening."

Chosen from a twenty member Prom Court, Sam Linsmeyer (11) was voted Prom King, while Jillian Burkhart (11) was crowned Prom Queen.

Prom was a memorable and special night for many of the students who attended. Although much preparation and planning was involved, it was, overall, the small, personal moments that will be remembered for years to come.



The Prom Court makes their entrance. Prom Court members included Audri Nicholson, Matt Witham, Rachel Trevino, Daniel Lambert, Betsy Peoples, Shane Connolly, Ann McCullough, Tim Reid, Chase Meeks, Sarah Schepper, John Didier, Sally Shinabarger, Ben Haifley, Alli Metheis, Jacob Little, Michelle Decker, Courtney Garton, and Jarrod Shaw.

Keeping their memories alive, students sign the Prom Promise

alicia batchelder
writer

As Prom made its way around the corner, students made many last minute preparations in order to be fully prepared when the time came. One such preparation, sponsored by Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD), was the Prom Promise. With the theme of "Keep your memories alive," Prom Promise is a nationwide pledge made by students in order to remain safe on Prom night by remaining drug and alcohol free.

SADD set up many visuals throughout the school area in order to help students remember the Prom Promise. A coffin sat in the showcase in the front commons area. Pledge posters hung within the case, in an attempt to remind students to make the pledge. In front of the school sat a wrecked car, which had been set up by the SADD chapter in order to show students the possible results of driving under the influence.

As students signed the pledge during their lunches, their names were put in a drawing for a prize. This year prizes included gift certificates and a portable DVD player.

SADD sponsored Prom Promise in an attempt to make students consider the negative consequences of alcohol and drug use on Prom night.

Les Miserables features many in cast, crew, pit

katie corson
writer

Les Miserables presented some interesting challenges for the cast, crew, directors, and musicians that were a part of the production, but many in the audience felt that they rose to the challenge.

The story is set in France from 1815 to 1832. The story follows the character of Jean Valjean, played by Tom Stoffel, as he finds himself raising a young girl while living in hiding from a French policeman, all during the beginnings of the French Revolution. The French policeman Javert is played by Brian Quigley. After Valjean escapes from prison in the beginning of the musical, the two engage in a cat and mouse like chase that goes on until Javert's shocking suicide late in the second act.

"The scenes I did with Brian were my favorites and very meaningful for me," Stoffel said. "His presence on stage and understanding of the character was important. He worked very hard."

The young Cosette is played by Courtney Blosser, and is the daughter of Fantine, played by Bridget Pearson. Cosette falls into the care of Valjean after he promises Bridget's character Fantine on her deathbed that he will care for her daughter.

"One of my favorite scenes is the one where my character died," Bridget Pearson (12) said. "It was very emotional."

Other characters include Monsieur and Madame Thenardier, played by Matt Anderson and Carly Rosswurm, who provide some welcome comic relief, as well as Eponine their daughter played by Jocleyn Gauthier and Brett Hunter's character Marius, adult Cosette's love interest.

"Matt Anderson and Carly Rosswurm did a great job. They were both so into their parts and really fun to watch," Pearson said.

Due to the fact that the musical required some younger actors this year, three elementary age girls were introduced to the cast. Lena Ganote played the part of young Eponine along side Courtney Blosser who played young Cosette, and Emily Rapoza who played Gavroche.

"They had to have been intimidated, but they were just so darn cute. I really enjoyed working with them," Stoffel said. "They handled their parts very well. I was impressed that even though they were so young, they were able to have a good understanding of their characters."

Les Miserables was supported, not only by talented actors and musicians, but by a dedicated crew as well.

"Musically and technically, it was a very difficult show. It would not have been possible to do without the many talented people that are never seen by the audience. They are the ones that make it happen," Stoffel said. "What we do is so little compared to what is done backstage."

(dis´ -pā´shən)
n. An amusement; diversion

the Spartana
DISSIPATION

3
June 3, 2004

The perfect regular season

photo / jason walley

Erich Johnston (9) putts during a regular season match. The boys finished regular season competition with a 12-0 record.

evan childers
writer

Many of Homestead's athletic teams have found success over the course of the year, but none have mirrored the achievements of Homestead's Varsity Golf Team. The squad has finished off a dream season, going 12-0 under the direction of Coach Rod Parker. The undefeated regular season as the team hoping to make a strong post-season showing.

"I think I expected us to be good, but not this good," golfer Jeffrey Mason (11) said.

The team recently defeated a tough East Noble squad 151-145 to keep their undefeated record alive. The team played hard, led by Eric Johnston's (9) 34, and persevered even though they played on East Noble's home course. Homestead's squad then finished off the perfect season with a landslide victory against the New Haven Bulldogs.

"We played real well against East Noble. We might be undefeated, but in previous games, we hadn't shot as well," Paul Gauger (11) said.

Golf matches consist of five varsity golfers from each team competing against each other on nine holes. The four lowest scores from the match are totaled for the team score.

Despite the team's undefeated season, the golfers recognize they have room for improvements.

"We can definitely improve on scoring," Gauger said. "Scoring at a lower level, that is. The best four scores out of the team's five scores are taken into account for the match, but usually we only have had two good low scores per match. We can do better."

Even though golf is by nature an individual sport, Homestead's team still has a lot of unity and team spirit.

"We have a lot of team unity. We have all known each other and played golf together since sixth or seventh grade, and the team unity is there. We just need to perform better as a unit," Gauger said.

"It's kind of tough to play an individual sport as a team," Mason said. "But we do a good job of supporting each other and encouraging each other. Sometimes the coach will tell us if we need to step up because someone is struggling, and everyone does their best to do that."

The team is hoping to make a run to the state competition this year, after faltering in regionals last year.

"It was a lack of experience that led to the loss," Gauger said. "No one could handle the pressure. But if we play well in sectionals and regionals, I think we can make it to state this year."

The focus required by individual members is intense. As any golfer will tell you, the game is frustrating when you play alone, but the added pressure of playing for your school's team is very taxing. The team's ability to focus has allowed them to attain their current standing atop the NHC.

"I just take it one shot at a time," Gauger said. "I hit a shot, and plan the next one as I'm walking. I look ahead to where the next hole is, and keep the wind direction in mind."

The undefeated season has team members pumped. The team is keeping their focus and remaining enthusiastic about the possibility of advancing through the post-season to the state competition.

"I really like our chances," Gauger said. "Even though we're a young team, we can hold our own."

photo / zach hetrick

Ken Perkins (10) coming off the starting blocks during the lead leg of the 4X100 during the Northside Relays. The 4X100 qualified and competed in the regional competition.

Preparing for the postseason

After a second place in conference, boys' track regroups for sectionals

jessica bird
writer

Before the school year can come to a close, spring sports teams enter the most important part of their season. After regular season games, all teams, if the team has a winning record, advance to the post regular season. This is when teams and individuals compete at sectional, regional, and state levels. The boys track team is at that point in their season.

To help contribute to their winning record of 5-0 in the regular season, were the last few meets. On May 7, the boys traveled to the Marx Truex Invitational. Homestead finished in 5th place out of eight, with a score of 80 following Warsaw (112), Elkhart Central (100), Snider (99), and Penn (83). At this meet, each individual runner's score was combined with another runner on the same team's score combined to determine what place the team would get in each meet. In the pole vault event, Kent Bultemeier (12) with a vault of 13' and Hunter Hall (9) with a vault of 12', to get second place at the meet. In the 110 meter hurdles, Tim Reid (12) and Ryan Rahrig (12) combined their times of 15.1 16.1, respectively, to finish in second place. In the 1600 meter race, Steve Clark (10) and Ben Townsend (10) finished in third place with times of 4:37.9 and 4:46.7, respectively. Kenneth Perkins (10), Jonathan Thomas (12), Reid, and Zach Kiessling (12) finished in third place in the 4X100.

The NHC Conference meet was held on May 11 where Homestead finished in second place, with a score of 110 out of eight teams, only losing to East Noble (121). In the 3200 meter relay, Homestead's relay team of Spencer York (10), Kyle Fezi (10), Ross Schomburg (10), Bryce Heckber (10), finished in third place with a time of 8:22.78. In the 400 meter relay, Homestead's relay team of Thomas, Reid, Kiessling, and Perkins, finished in first place with a time of 43.62. In the 110 meter high hurdles, Reid received first place with a time of 15.06. Reid also received first place, with a time of 39.88, in the intermediate hurdles. In the 100 meter dash, Kiessling received first place with a time of 11:21, followed by Perkins, 11.22. Schomburg received third place in the 800 meter run with a time of 2:03.84. First and third place were received by Kiessling, 22.76, and Perkins, 22.86. In field events, Matt Howell (12) received third place in the long jump with a jump of 20-3.

"It (NHC Conference) was a close meet," Clark said, "it went back and forth between us and East Noble the whole time and they just were too deep for us in the end."

At the North Side Sectional, two relay teams and three individual runners qualified for Regionals. The 4X800 relay team of Schomburg, Fezi, Townsend, and York received forth place at the sectional meet with a time of 8:14.47. The 4X100 relay team of Perkins, Thomas, Reed, and Kiessling also qualified for Sectionals. Perkins qualified in the 100m dash, Kiessling qualified for the 200m dash, and Reid in the 300 hurdles. The Regional meet will be Thursday, May 27 at Wayne High School.

Despite a tough battle with East Noble, other area schools are sure to be a threat to Homestead's chances at state. Other schools close by Homestead always challenge the runners to make sure they do their very best because of all the tough local competition.

"The toughest teams to beat will probably be Northrop, who is first in the State, and Snider who is in fourth place in the State," Coach Shenfeld said.

To help prepare for tournament meets, practice is different than during the regular season. Different events call for different unique training to help all the runners do the best they can, especially at State levels.

"[Practice] is more specialized because there is less people so we can spend more time on specialized things," Shenfeld said.

Last year, there were two all states on the Homestead team, a 400 meter runner, and the 4X400 relay team. This year, Coach Shenfeld has confidence in a different group of runners.

"[I have the most confidence in] the sprint events because they have been the most consistent." Shenfeld said.

With hard practice and ambition the boy's track team has the strength it needs to be successful in their post-season meets.

Girls' track ranked third in state

High-ranking girls place third in toughest sectional in state

tyler keena
writer

The girls' track team has completed their undefeated regular season and followed that feat with a conference championship. The team is now heading into the post-season with a lot of momentum on their side.

The Spartans rounded out their regular season with victories in the Lime City Relays, a three-team conference meet, and the Concordia Relays.

At the Lime City Relays, an invitational meet, the girls defeated six other Indiana High Schools, including Hamilton Southeastern and Penn, by over 30 points. Katie Veith (9) led the team to victory with first-place finishes in the 100 meter high hurdles, 300 meter low hurdles, and the pole vault. Sam Lee (10) and Hannah Weide (11) also provided first place finishes in the 1600 meter run and the 100 meter dash respectively. Two of the three relays on the team, the 3200 meter and 400 meter, also placed first.

The Spartans continued their dominance into their into a three-team meet against conference foes Norwell and New Haven. The girls nearly monopolized the meet by placing first in every event except the long jump, in which they placed second. The team finished the meet with 115.5 points, while Norwell and New Haven finished with just 29.5 and 11 points respectively. This victory secured the girls undefeated record in the regular season (non-invitational meets).

"It is an awesome feeling to go undefeated all season. It really shows how great our team is as a whole and how everyone is really pulling their weight this year."

The girls took second place in their final meet before the conference meet, the Concordia Relays. The Concordia Relays were also an invitational meet, but this time the Spartans were barely beaten by Concordia Lutheran. Homestead took first place in the 3200 meter and 1600 meter relays and Kathryn Zachman (10) also took first place in the long jump.

The Spartans were entering the NHC championship meet with no losses to any other teams in the meet and hoping to continue their winning ways. The girls did just, scoring 162 points and winning the meet by 71 points, with Columbia City and DeKalb as the closest competitors with 91 points each. All three relay teams aided the Spartans to victory with first place finishes in the meet, Katie Veith finished first place in the 100 meter high hurdles and 300 meter low hurdles. Hannah Weide, Kristin Zachman (12), and Jennifer Kopecky (12) also added first place finishes in the 400 meter dash, 200 meter dash, and discus, respectively. The Spartan win put an exclamation point on their season and capped off an undefeated season in conference.

"It is an awesome feeling to go undefeated all season," Kristin Zachman said. "It really shows how great our team is as a whole and how everyone is really pulling their weight this year. This is by far the best team I have run with in my [four] years at Homestead."

Besides winning conference, Spartan coach Anne Tiernon was also awarded the NHC Coach of the Year award. Tiernon gave the credit for receiving the award to the runners, saying, "I won because I had the best team."

With the regular season finished, the team's focus switched to the post-season

"I really believe we can advance a lot of girls to the regional and state," Zachman said. "It would be great to advance all three relays to state again this year."

"The ultimate goal is to get as many people to advance to state as we can," Bliss Cook (10) added. "This year we have been ranked in the top 10 in the state, and this is the year to accomplish that."

At the Northrop sectional on May 18, Homestead advanced two of three relays to regionals. The advancing relays were the 3200 meter and 1600 meter relays, which finished second and fourth. Individuals who finished in the top four at sectionals also advanced. Katie Veith advanced in the 300 and 100 meter hurdles, finishing fourth and second respectively. Other individuals who advanced through sectionals were Hannah Weide and Samantha Lee in the 800 meter run, Jennifer Kopecky in the shotput, and Kristin Zachman in the high jump.

At regionals, The Homestead 3200 meter relay finished first, along with Katie Veith in the pole vault. The 1600 meter relay team and Hannah Weide in the 800 both finished second and will advance to state competition on June 4.

photo / zach hetrick

Hannah Weide (11) competes in the 4X800 during a meet.

the Spartan
PITHY
(pith´e) adj. concisely meaningful

Softball team ends season with sectional loss

jared baker
writer

After an exceptional season, the Lady Spartans softball team wrapped up their year with a tough, extra-inning loss to Huntington North in the 4A sectionals.

Amber Ludwig's (11) stellar 10 strike-out performance in 7 and 2/3 innings, along with Megan Outhwaite (11) contributing two of the Spartans' three hits and Katey O'Connor (11) adding the other, it just wasn't enough to top the Vikings.

"Amber did a great job, we just didn't have enough to win," Katey O'Connor (11) said

Cooing into the bottom of the 8th, Ludwig had an amazing performance going. After sending the first batter to first on a walk, she allowed the runner to advance to third base on two past balls.

With two outs in the bottom of the 8th, a wild pitch scored the only run all game, ending the Spartans season.

"It really hurt that the season came down to a mistake, all the hard work put in ended like that, it doesn't seem right," O'Connor said.

The 1-0 defeat was truly a fitting end to a season filled with nail-biting finishes. 11 of the 25 Spartans' games were won or lost by no more than 2 runs. Games like those can really make or break a teams season, making them successful or turning their season into a long losing year. Finishing 2 games above .500 at 14-12 (2-5) the girls did not quite meet their expectations they had at the beginning of the season.

"It was kind of disappointing that we were one and done in sectionals, but we just need to look forward to next year," Ann McCullough (11) said.

With 14 returning players, 7 of them regular starters, the girls have high hopes for next year's season.

"We're definitely going to have a good team, hopefully we can improve from our mistakes this year and win a lot of games next season," said O'Connor.

Although this season may have been a bit disappointing, the girls will have a lot of success to look forward to next year with all the returning starters and several new additions. Next year should give the girls a great opportunity to win conference and sectionals next year.

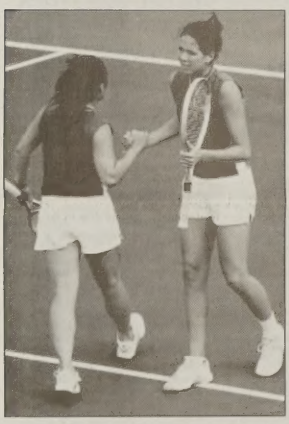
"It's sad the season is over and to see our three seniors leave, but there's a lot to look forward to next year, I'm pretty excited about our team," McCullough said.

photo/ zach hetrick

Annie Lau (12) leans over to catch the ball during a game.

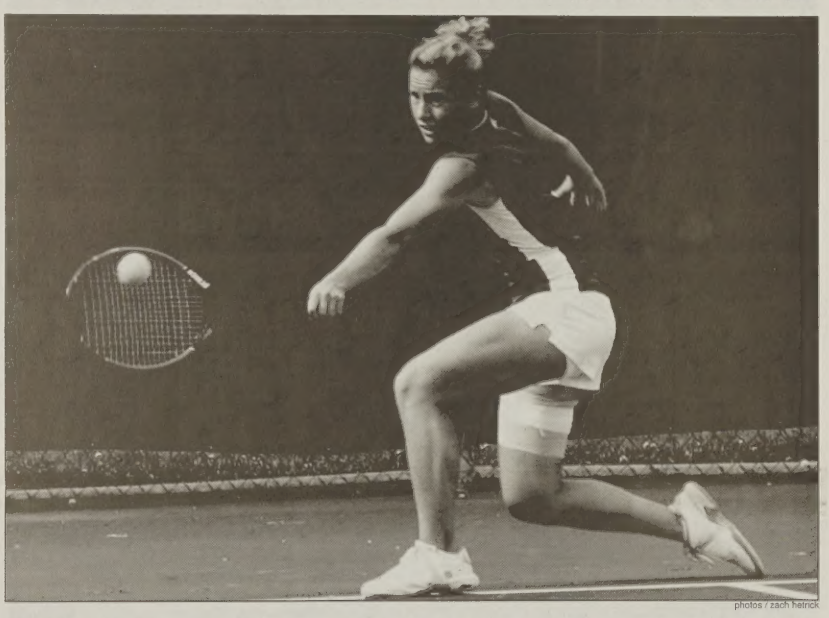
Double Trouble

Girls tennis team hopes for visit to Indianapolis for state tournament



Above: Brooke Parrish (12) and Connie Shim (12) communicate during a match. Together, Parrish and Shim played the number one doubles spot. Below: Connie Shim (12) hit a backhand and prepares to hit the ball toward the opponent's side of the court.

all photos / zach hetrick



photos / zach hetrick

Laura Phillipp (12) returns a hit with a backhand stroke during a match. Phillipp is the number one singles player on the team. She has had this position since her sophomore year.

matt anderson
designer

After returning both players from 2003's State-runner up doubles team, one must wonder where a team with that much success can go from there. Well, Connie Shim (12) and Brooke Parrish (12) know.

They can now take the team on their backs, and bring the rest of the girls to state with them.

To qualify for the state tournament last year the girls had to go undefeated in post-season play. Even though the team would eventually lose a close match to Zionsville in the semi-state finals, they were allowed to go on without their team since they had yet to lose.

"Last year was an amazing experience," Shim said. "We got to do something that most people only dream of doing, and we ended up doing pretty well."

The team has yet to lose in post-season play and is still eligible to play in the individual state tournament as of now. Unfortunately, if the team does make it to state finals the chance that the doubles duo will have another shot at an individual state title falls a little short. If they were to travel to Indianapolis to play in the team state competition they would most likely end up facing the eventual state champion, and because of this would probably be playing one of the most skilled teams in the state.

"There is no doubt in my mind that I'd rather take my team to state than go back to individuals," Shim said. "I have been waiting four years to be able to play in the state finals with my entire team, and I think this is the year I'm going to be able to."

So far this season the girls tennis team has managed to win 12 of their matches by a margin of 5-0, and have every player go undefeated in conference play during the regular season. They obtained a top 4 state ranking from the IHSSA, and are preparing to make their 12th straight trip to the semi-state tournament.

"We are dying to go to state," Amy Recht (9) said. "We want to win semi-state unbelievably badly. This is the best team we've had in quite a while, and we aren't going to have one this good for a few more years after this. It's kind of a now or never kind of thing."

"There is no doubt in my mind that I'd rather take my team to state than go back to individuals. I have been waiting four years to be able to play in the state finals with my entire team, and I think this is the year I'm going to be able to."

-Connie Shim (12)

With a team of four seniors, all of which have been on the team every year, this will be the last chance for them to make the trip. Almost every year the class of 2004 has played they have almost made it to the state tournament but fallen short, eventually.

"This is our year to go to state," Shim said. "We have been playing great all season, and have an awesome core of girls. Unfortunately, last year we were stopped by Zionsville [high school] in the finals, but we think this year will be different."

Coming out of the regular season the girls flew past top area teams like Canterbury to take the sectional title. The girls' regional then started on May 25th where they stumbled slightly.

"After beating Carroll a week earlier and winning 5-0 we only ended up beating them 3-2," Erin Wright (10) said. "I think we were a little too confident going into the match since we had beaten them pretty easily the first time. They definitely came out and played harder this time. Obviously they wanted to win this one."

The marginal win against Carroll high school helped the girls recognize the vitality of each point in every match. Differing greatly from other easy wins, the victory against Carroll was a close one.

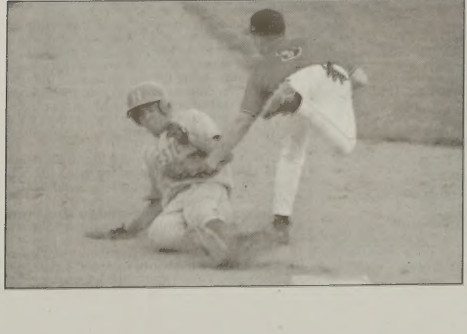
"A win is a win, but I think we realized after the Carroll match was over how close it could have been," Wright said. "Everyone on our team has always put a lot of pressure on themselves, but I think after that match we realized how important every point is. If one more person had been off that day, Carroll would have been advancing.

But now that the other area teams have been beaten, the team looks to the south for the match-up they have been waiting for.

"We have been waiting to play Zionsville ever since we lost to them last year," Shim said. "They are a strong team, but this year we are stronger. This is going to be the year we make it to state."

Feeling like they already have the physical game, members on the team need to give attention to mental attitude.

"We've got a good game," Recht said. "We just need to keep our spirits high and keep each other up. If we can keep our attitudes in check, we will make it to state."



Boys baseball season proves sluggish

Left: Jared Baker (11) slides into home base during a game of the regular season. As of press time, the varsity boys had gone 11 and 14 for their regular season, and they had two games remaining to finish it out. They added a fourth win to their late season streak when they defeated the Northside Redskins on Wednesday, with a final score of 12-2. Their remaining games include meetings with the Southside Archers and the Concordia Cadets on Thursday and Friday, respectively. Concordia should prove to be a challenge, however, as they are SAC champs this year, but the team is confident after having defeated the Cadets earlier in the season.

Failing to play to individual strengths and abilities is what the team attributes their many losses to. Despite a predominately disappointing season, however, hope for success in sectionals is ever present among the players. The team has a lucky draw, and anticipates a win against the winless Southside team during the first round of sectionals on Monday. Sectionals are held at Snider's fields.

Upcoming Games

* Thursday June 3, against Southside
*Friday, June 4, against Concordia

(ə-măl'gə-māt') v. to mix so as to make a unified whole; blend

the Spartana
AMALGAMATE
5
June 3, 2004

Travel through time

mary rozman
associate editor

suhasini bhargava
associate entertainment editor

kasey butcher
associate news editor

jack rozman
photographer

Coney Island, established in 1913 at the corner of Harrison and Main Street, has long since been a Fort Wayne landmark. Visiting Coney is practically a rite of passage for growing up in Fort Wayne. Coney Island is an enjoyable cultural experience that will not leave much of a dent in one's pocket.

A Coney Dog costs $.99 and a glass bottle of Coke costs only $1.00. In a drastic contrast to last year's food review finale with a visit to Eddie Merlot's, this year we decided to take a fun, but inexpensive approach. Between Mary, Kasey, Suhasini, and Jack, we ordered everything on the menu except the pie and our tab reached a mere $16.88.

Jack's discussion of food: The food was some of the best I have had for the price. The coney dog is definitely the best hot dog in town. With onions, the special "coney island" sauce, and mustard, the coney dog is a real treat.

Mary's discussion of service: We walked into Coney Island and sat ourselves at a table near the entrance. Our waiter came to the table and took our drink orders immediately. When he returned with our bottled cokes, he took our food order. Our server was very friendly, and coincidently substitutes at our school. The coney dogs were ready within ten minutes. Overall, the service was prompt and pleasant.

Suhasini's discussion of atmosphere: This restaurant has a unique and entertaining atmosphere--from the moment we entered Coney Island, we noticed a casual decor. Through the window, we could see dozens of hot dogs roasting on the grill. Coney Island exuberated an "old building" feeling, and the restaurant allowed me to escape to the early years of 20th century when Coney Island was established. On the contrary, I would have appreciated more cleanliness and more sanitary facilities. Although Coney Island's atmosphere lacked outstanding sanitation often available at other restaurants, the atmosphere proved worthwhile.

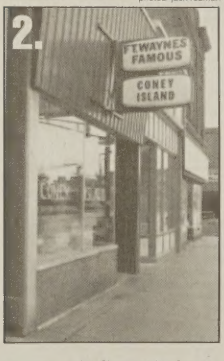
Kasey's discussion of overall effect: Coney Island is one of my favorite places in my hometown. It has an eclectic and somehow aesthetically pleasing feeling to it. The food isn't the greatest I've ever had, the service is nothing extraordinary, but there is still something special that makes me want to come back time and time again.

Coney Island is also a part of Fort Wayne's history, having been a feature of the downtown scene for the past eighty-nine years. Being prone to sentimentality and nostalgia, I believe that this really enhances the dining experience. Even someone who doesn't like hot dogs would (or should) love Coney Island.

Kasey Butcher (11) tries the chili at Coney Island. In addition to a coney dog, Butcher ordered chili and a bottle of coke.

The food crew tries Coney Island, one of the oldest restaurants in town

photos/ jack rozman



1. and 2. Signs outside Coney Island are captured on film. 3. A coney dog, with onions and mustard, is pictured.

Favorites on DVD for summer entertainment

kasey butcher
associate news editor

Well, my fellow students, it is the end of another school year. Ahead of us lies great, vast amounts of time, extended curfews, no such thing as a school night, and, hopefully, leisure. While English teachers may assign a summer reading list, I am assigning a summer viewing list. Included are nine movies that I recommend for summer entertainment.

1. Roman Holiday. This 1953 movie starring Audrey Hepburn and Gregory Peck was Hepburn's first starring role and she won an Oscar for it. Roman Holiday tells the story of a young Princess (Hepburn) on tour in Europe who gets tired of her royal duties and runs away while in Rome. She is discovered by a newspaper reporter (Peck) who befriends her, deciding that this is the scoop of the lifetime. He gives her an exciting tour of Rome with a little romance on the side. This movie is good for the beginning of summer when everyone feels, much like the Princes, ready for a vacation.

2. Say Anything (1989). This movie, starring John Cusack and Ione Skye tells the story of Lloyd Dobbler, an offbeat guy who falls in love with the Validictorian and, despite her struggles, wins her over. This movie is adorable and is one of my personal favorites. I can probably quote nine out of every ten lines from this movie. It is very well written. Lloyd Dobbler is a fascinating and lovable character and who doesn't love John Cusack anyway?

"While English teachers may assign a summer reading list, I am assigning a summer viewing list. Included are nine movies that I recommend for summer entertainment"

3. Field of Dreams (1989). This movie features Kevin Costner as a man who hears his cornfield telling him "if you build it, they will come." It is a baseball field and they are the ghosts of baseball players from the past, including his father. Co-starring James Earl Jones and Ray Liotta, this is a great summertime movie for those who love baseball or just a great story.

4. Rear Window (1954). This movie is great for those days when there is absolutely nothing else to do. Rear Window features James Stewart as a bedridden photographer who passes his time watching his neighbors and by doing so discovers that one of them may have killed his wife. This is a thrilling, Hitchcockian classic.

5. Dead Again (1991). This movie, directed by and starring Kenneth Branagh is also great for those who enjoy a thriller. Dead Again deals with the concepts of reincarnation and revenge. The plot is too complicated to explain, but I assure the reader that it is awesome. Dead Again co-stars Emma Thompson, Andy Garcia and Robin Williams in a bit part.

6. Citizen Kane (1941). This controversial movie made by Orson Welles is the thinly veiled mockery of Newspaper tycoon and chief of the yellow journalists, William Randolf Hearst. This movie was a huge scandal in its time and is worth viewing today. It is also the American Film Institutes number one film of all time. I recommend it, not only as a journalist, but as a movie lover as well.

7. Gone With the Wind (1939). I've referred to this movie so much this year, there is not really much left to say other than with vacation there is enough time to watch it.

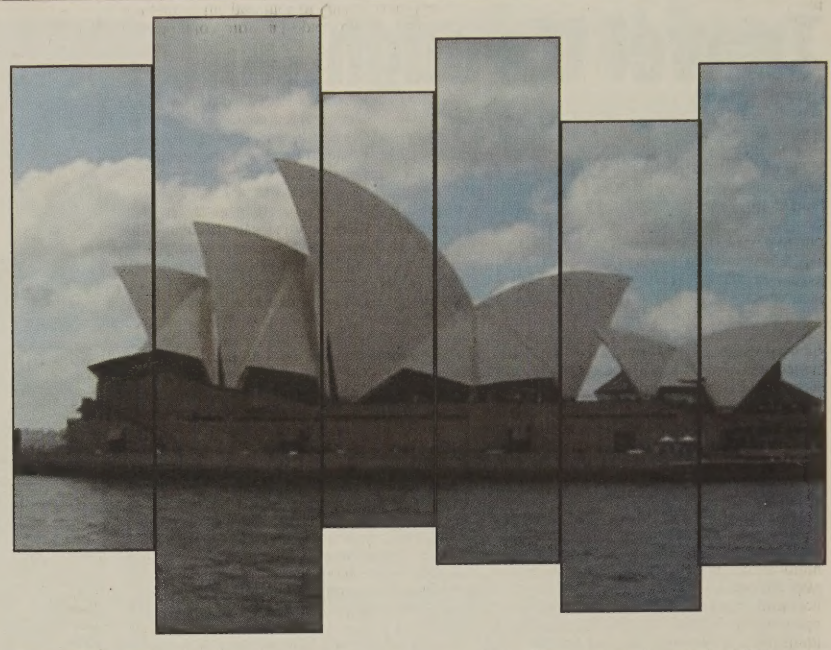
8. Clueless (1995). This is a great teen comedy. One of the best, and one of the first to center around teenage girls. It tells the story of Cher (Alicia Silverstone) a girl so caught up so convinced that others are too clueless to find love for themselves, she fails to see how clueless she is. Clueless is based off Jane Austin's Emma and is a hilarious movie that I've seen a dozen times and loved it more with every viewing.

9. Tommy Boy (1995). This movie, starring Chris Farley and David Spade is good for that time, right before going back to school, when one isn't quite sure if they are going to be able to handle it again. After watching this movie about the village idiot out to save his father's automobile plant, anyone will feel a little smarter. It is so funny, it brings tears to my eyes.

photo / jordan rogers

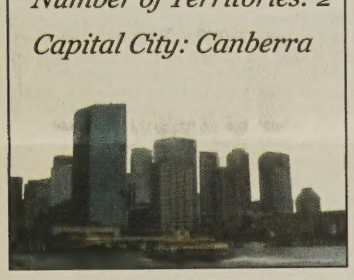
A new opening: Pictured left is movie theater Coventry 13, which recently re-opened as a discount theater. The theater was originally constructed in 1990; however, the theater closed down shortly after the opening of movie theater Rave. Admission for matinee shows at Coventry 13 is $1.00. Admission for evening shows is $1.50. Admission for shows on Tuesdays is $0.50. The theater shows recently released movies. Concession prices for Coventry 13 are lower than those at other theaters within the community. A large soft drink costs $3.50 at Coventry 13, and a large popcorn is available for $4.50. Coventry 13 is located at 5495 Coventry Lane, Fort Wayne, IN-46804. Although Coventry 13 lacks stadium seating, new screens, projectors, and seats have been purchased and installed.

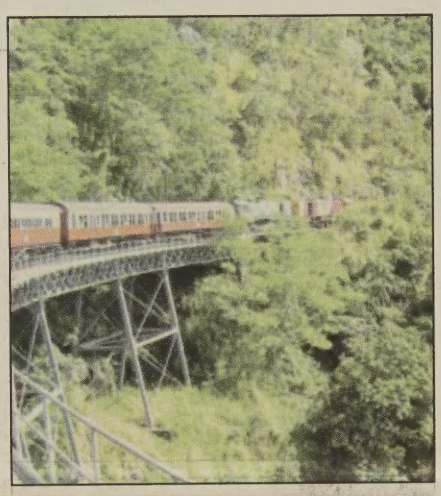
A trip down *under*

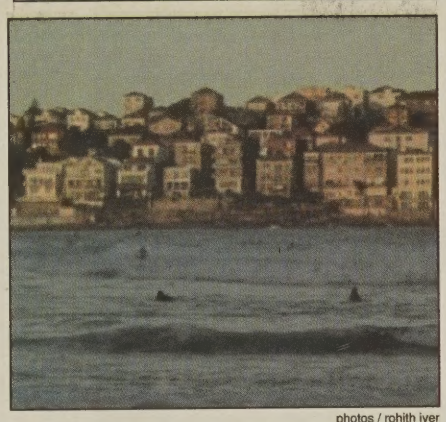


Australia at a Glance

Population: 20 Million
Size: 7,614,500 sq km
Density: 2 / sq km
Number of States: 6
Number of Territories: 2
Capital City: Canberra

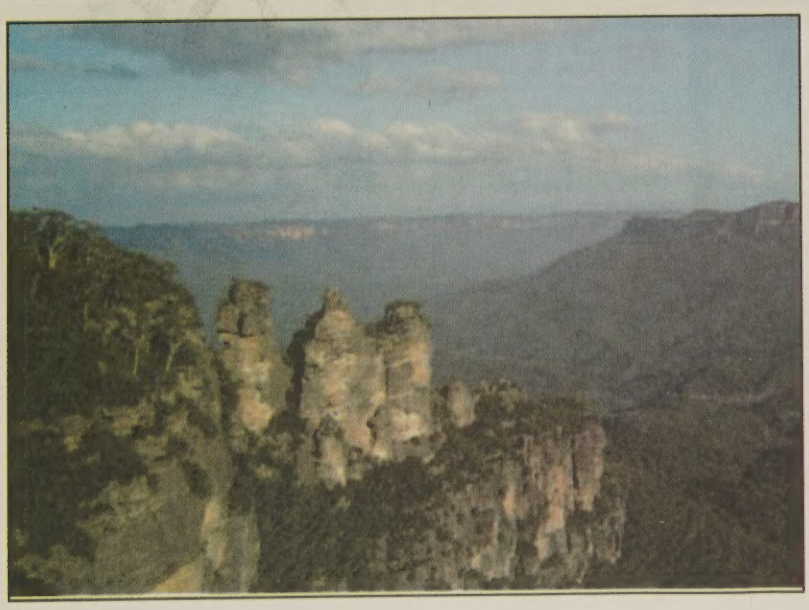






photos / rohith iyer

Far Top Right: The famous Sydney Opera House, constructed by Jorn Utzon from 1957 to 1973. Top Right: A train passes through the Kuranda Rainforest in the state of Queensland. Right: The world famous Bondi Beach in Sydney, home of the 2000 volleyball Olympic games. Above: Downtown Sydney overlooking the Sydney Harbor, one of Australia's most dynamic skylines. Below: The twelve apostles in Port Campbell National Park, just off the coast of the Australian state of Victoria. Far Below: The three sisters lie majestically above the Jamison Valley in the Blue Mountains of New South Wales.



rohith iyer
associate copy editor

For many years, I have always desired to visit Australia, the land "Down Under". As my family and I sat down earlier this year to discuss ideas for a possible 2004 Spring Break excursion, naturally I brought up the idea of visiting Australia. After researching the numerous destinations and activities available in Australia, we agreed that it would be the perfect place to visit.

Australia is a highly industrialized, modern center of commerce and trade. It is a very urbanized country, with 70% of its 19.9 million people living in the country's 10 largest cities. Most of its population is concentrated along the country's eastern seaboard and its southeastern corner. It is the sixth largest country in the world, and is about the same size as the 48 mainland states of the US. This massive size contributes to its population density, which is the lowest in the world at only two people per square kilometer. Australia's lifestyle reflects its mainly Western origins, but Australia is also a multicultural society which has been enriched by nearly five million settlers from almost 200 nations.

The journey to Australia was one of the longest plane flights I have ever taken. 15 hours of flying time after my departure from California, I had finally reached my destination.

My trip began in the city of Melbourne, a bustling metropolis that combines city life with natural beauty. Dubbed "The Most Liveable City in Australia", Melbourne is the largest city and capital of the province of Victoria, and the second largest city in Australia. With a population comprised of 3.2 million people from more than 140 different nations, the city has a rich multicultural society. I stayed in downtown, and found that the easiest way to travel around the city was by tram, as Melbourne has one of the largest tram and light-rail networks in the world. The city offered great dining and entertainment, and was very unique. As I looked at the skyline, I was amazed by the combination of both modern skyscrapers and Victorian style architecture.

"I was amazed by the combination of both modern skyscrapers and Victorian style architecture.

After looking out my hotel, I was able to understand why Melbourne is known as Australia's sporting capital. From my room I could see the world famous Rod Laver Arena, which is home to the Australian Open. Next to it lied the Melbourne Cricket Ground and the Vodafone Arena, which is home to test cricket and the Australian game of footy, a game that is a combination of rugby, soccer, and American football. As my luck would have it, I was able to watch a live footy game at Vodafone Arena during my stay. The stadium was at maximum capacity, as two of Australia's footy teams were competing against each other. Both the young and the old sitting next to me were fully engrossed in the game, which is both fast paced and high scoring.

As if there was not enough to do in Melbourne alone, just outside the city lies the Great Ocean Road along Victoria's coast. The road had stunning ocean views on one side, and fertile mountains on the other. As I traveled down the road, I passed through coastal towns and villages which offered fun beach activities. After a couple hours down the Great Ocean Road, we reached Port Campbell National Park, home to the Twelve Apostles. The Twelve Apostles are giant rock stacks that rise from the Southern Ocean, which were formed by constant erosion of the limestone cliffs of the mainland. The views of the rock formations at sunset were majestic.

After saying good-bye to Melbourne, I continued on to Cairns, a tropical city in the northern part of the province of Queensland. Cairns is the most accessible city to visit the Great Barrier Reef from, and has a pleasant tropical climate that attracts tourists all year round.

In order to travel to the Great Barrier Reef, I first took a 1.5 hour speed boat ride into the middle of the ocean. But it was not until I began to snorkel into the reef that I started to realize its beauty. The reef was full of colorful fish and coral, but in some areas it was damaged and dying. As I talked to the diving instructors about the damaged coral, they explained to me that the Great Barrier Reef has the world's largest collection of coral reefs, with 400 types of coral, 1,500 species of fish, and 4,000 types of mollusks. However they also explained that as a result of global warming and pollutants, the reefs are dying, and the marine species that once inhabited the corals are losing their homes.

Apart from the Great Barrier Reef, Cairns' other most popular attraction is the sky rail and train through the Kuranda Rainforest. I first took the train up into the mountains, which gave beautiful level views of the forest and natural waterfalls. On my way back down the mountain, I took the sky rail, which provided an aerial view of the forest. The train first takes you into the Aboriginal village of Kuranda, which gave me an understanding of Aboriginal customs and culture. I was able to meet an Aboriginal music group, and was amazed by their style of music. The group blew into large hollow logs, which made a loud and deep horn-like sound. The wider the log, the more deeper the sound. Talking to the Aborigines, I got an idea about the conditions they lived in. Although some Aborigines hold prominent jobs and live in mainstream society, others remain living in villages following traditional customs.

The final destination in my Australian excursion was Sydney, the financial capital and "Gateway to Australia". Built around the Sydney Harbor, the city is home to over 4 million people, and is capital of the province of New South Wales. 70% of Sydney's residents are a combination of two or more ethnic backgrounds, and over 30% are first generation immigrants. A total of over 200 nationalities are represented in Sydney's population, and more than 20 different languages are in widespread daily use throughout the city.

When I reached Sydney, I decided to first explore some of the attractions that were nearby to my hotel. One attraction was the world famous Bondi Beach, where the Olympic games in volleyball were held in 2000. The beach was a beautiful site, with many modern and fancy high rise buildings overlooking the beach and the ocean. Surrounding Bondi Beach was a fashionable area that had great shops and restaurants. Although it was a slight detour, I returned back to the city via the world famous Sydney Harbor Bridge, which provided beautiful sites of Sydney Harbor and the skyline. Once back in downtown, before returning to my hotel I decided to take a walk around parts of the business district, as Sydney is on of the largest financial hubs in the world. I saw that many large corporations were based in downtown, and was able to get a good understanding of Sydney's commerce.

I knew I could not leave Sydney without visiting the world famous Sydney Opera House. Although it is only 30 years old, the Opera House is one of the world's busiest performing art centers, with performances of opera, ballet, theater, and music. I took a guided tour through the opera house, in which I saw the main opera and theater performance rooms. However, more than anything else, the beauty of the structure is what I found the most interesting. The Opera House had a wonderful restaurant outside the structure, which had marvelous views of the harbor, skyline, and Opera House.

Just outside Sydney lies the Blue Mountains, an attractive area that offers spectacular canyon and forest views, and trendy mountain villages that offer shopping and dining. It was best to drive up into the mountains from Sydney, which took about 2 hours. The mountains most famous attraction is the Three Sisters located in the village of Katoomba. The Three Sisters are rock formations that have formed above the Jamison Valley, and sit opposite the mountains. The view of the Three Sisters into the valley was the highlight of the trip into the Blue Mountains, and one of the most beautiful sites of my trip.

After returning back to Sydney from the Blue Mountains, it was time for me to say good-bye to both the city and Australia, as my 12 day vacation had come to an end. Reflecting on my trip, I realized that Australia was a very modern country with many world class buildings and structures, and yet also a country of vast natural beauty. As my plane took off and I looked below, I realized that even after seeing so much in my 12 day stay, there was still a lot more to explore in Australia. I hope to make a trip back soon, and visit the Outback and coal mines of Australia in the near future.